

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1847.

[SIXPENCE.

THE LONDON SEASON.

THERE are four seasons everywhere but in London, which recognises only one ; we say "*the Season*" to denote its eminence, as all the world says "*the Duke*," to distinguish him from ordinary Peers. "*The Season*" is the only section of the year worth a phrase apart ; all other periods are mere portions of time ; through them London only exists ; in "*the Season*" it lives and moves, and shines and dances, and has flower-shows and fêtes, and banquets and exhibitions, and sees the shops full of wares, the streets full of carriages, and the shopkeepers full of bows and smiles to those who so lightly step out of them. All the rest of the year London is a great city ; but from the beginning of May till the end of July, from the first strawberry to the first grouse, it is a metropolis, a centre, to which all the possessors of all the wealth of the land come, as to the mart where splendour and pleasure in every shape are waiting their purchasers. Nor is pleasure the only thing pursued ; "*the Season*" is the time of business ; if the projector does not carry his plan within the allotted period, he must wait till the next year ; out of "*the Season*" nothing is done but mere buying and selling ; the tide of life ebbs eastward, and active existence seems confined to the "*City*," the Bank, the Exchange, and those mysterious men who work on steadily from year to year, laying the foundations of fortunes that will add brilliancy to "*Seasons*" hereafter. Every pursuit, occupation, art, and profession are in the fullest activity.

"*The Season*" is the "now or never" of all who appeal to the taste of the few, or depend on the verdict of the many. The artist labours, for years perhaps, in confidence if he has a name, in hope if he has not, that the brief "*Season*" will bring him his reward in gold or reputation. It is for the "*Season*" that every country of Europe is drained of its "*sweet singers*" and its most gifted musicians, till Italy is tuneless, and must be content with the third and fourth-rate talents rich and fastidious London rejects.

We are commercial even in our admiration of Art ; what we cannot produce, we import : Germany sends us a Staudigl, Italy a Grisi and Lablache, and Sweden a Jenny Lind. They come like the spirits to the summons of Prospero. What is the power they obey ? That of WEALTH !—of which the "*London Season*" is a most astounding manifestation. It is seen everywhere—in the shops, the thronged streets, where rich equipages impede each other's progress ; the Parks, the Clubs, the Opera, which alone requires almost the revenue of a State to support, and of which we have two ; the Theatres, the Fêtes of Chiswick, the *déjeuners*, the *réunions*, the *soirées*, the *Thés dansantes*—all the assemblies to which we have needlessly given French names ; the Balls at Almack's, the Ministerial parties ; take even our anniversary and charity dinners, that rival the banquets of Princes in sumptuousness ; reckon the cost of the feast, and the enormous sums often raised at them for special purposes ; in no other country is there anything resembling them. Nay, the religious meetings that

crowd Exeter Hall throughout the month of May, are evidences of the great wealth of the middle classes ; the hundreds of thousands of pounds annually raised at these gatherings can be spared. Whether the "pressure" on the money market, or any of the many difficulties of the day, will lessen these amounts, remains to be seen ; perhaps they will. With railway calls coming thick and fast, money tight, and no "accommodation" to be got under rates of interest that make one think the tribe of Levi have got possession of the Bank Parlour, and wonder why the Usury Laws were abolished, men are not likely to give so largely as usual to foreign missions. But the diminished subscriptions will not strike the eye ; outwardly, the "*Season*" shows no abatement of activity, splendour, and excitement. The carriages dash along as proudly as ever, plumes wave at the Drawing Room, and diamonds gleam at Almack's, with as much grace and brilliance, as if there were no Currency deputations in Downing-street, or Famine articles in the papers. Regent-street is scarcely passable ; and not a carriage that stops the way represents less than a leach of thousands a year.

The sun of May never shone on such a season : everything rich is doubled or intensified, as if to increase the contrast with the misery London hears of, but does not see. The Peers discuss an Irish Poor-Law, and talk of workhouses, fever, hunger, and deaths by the thousand of absolute want, in a chamber of more than regal magnificence, rich with purple and gold, where all is ease and



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luxury—the light of the lamps touching the walls as softly as the foot presses the carpeted floor, there is neither noise nor glare. The Marquis of Lansdowne almost apologised for introducing such a subject in such a place. Instead of one Exhibition of Paintings as of old, there are five or six; for one Opera we have two—both first-rate, and both full. Everywhere there is superabundance and superfluity; and London at this moment, in the full rush and whirl of the season, looks as careless and unconcerned as if the Bank were filled with bullion, and every bog in Ireland waving with corn.

The contrast between the extremes of life has been worn threadbare as a theme for the moralists. It is easy to deceive ourselves by looking only at the surface; under all the grandeur of the scene the metropolis presents, we may be assured there lies as distinct a knowledge of what we have to provide for, ay, and as strong a determination to meet the evils of the time, as if all Mayfair wore sackcloth and ashes, and neither dressed nor dined, nor went to balls. It is easy to place things in strong contrast, but the inference from it often misleads. Thus, Lord John Russell at the entertainment given to the Ministers at the Mansion-House, spoke of the distress of the country and the scarcity of food, at a table that glittered with plate, and (as appears by the bill of fare) spread with "all the delicacies of the season." But he described also the efforts that have been made to relieve it; the munificence of private charity; the foresight of the Legislature; the sinking of party differences in the face of peril that makes party attacks so fatal; the aid extended by a rival State; these are the influences that work beneath the surface, and show that energy and exertion are not wanting to the time. Sumptuary laws are no longer possible: the expenditure of individuals and classes must be left to their own discretion: the community may be exhorted to economy, but it cannot be compelled to be frugal. More effectual than all compulsory measures will be the example set by "the head of the highest household in the kingdom," who has specially ordered "that the utmost economy in the consumption of commodities of which there is a dearth should be used." While the Sovereign, and her Ministers, and all classes of society, prove by their exertions they are fully aware of the difficulty, we must not be misjudged, and pronounced careless and heartless on the evidence of the outward splendour which characterises "the London Season."

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

FRANCE.

Paris has this week been frightened from its propriety by a change, which the *Débats* mildly terms a modification, of the Cabinet, but which in reality may be considered as a complete overthrow of the Guizot Ministry.

This Ministerial revolution is chronicled by the *Moniteur de Monday*, in the form of the following appointments:

M. Dumon, Secretary of State in the Department of Public Works, to be Minister of Finance, in the place of M. Lacave-Laplagne.

M. Trezel, Peer of France, Lieutenant-General commanding the 12th military division, to be Minister of War, in the place of Lieutenant-General Moline de Saint Yon, whose resignation is accepted.

The Duke de Montebello, Peer of France, Ambassador at the Court of the King of the Two Sicilies, to be Minister of Marine and Colonies, in the place of Admiral Baron de Mackau, whose resignation is accepted.

M. Jayr, Peer of France, Prefect of the Department of the Rhone, to be Minister of Public Works, in the place of M. Dumon, nominated Minister of Finance.

The fifth ordinance charges M. Guizot, Minister of Foreign Affairs, with the interim of the Ministry of Marine and Colonies, during the absence of the Duke de Montebello.

It will be seen that the ordinance relative to the replacing of M. Lacave Laplagne does not contain the words "whose resignation is accepted," which are applied to Admiral Mackau and General Moline de Saint Yon, he having, in fact, refused to send in his resignation, and on such refusal was dismissed. The *Débats* says that M. Jayr and M. Trezel have notified by telegraph their acceptance of the offices to which they have been appointed.

The Paris papers contain a good deal of gossip respecting M. Lacave Laplagne, who, it appears, argued that the disorders in the finances were not the result of negligence on his part, but arose from causes for which the whole Cabinet were responsible. He, therefore, refused to resign, to please M. Guizot, but insisted upon being dismissed, so that blame might rest upon those to whom it was properly due.

A fearful accident took place, last Saturday, in a manufactory of carriage springs, situate in the Rue St. Denis, Paris. The boiler which fed one of the

dinner on the 1st. He had been for some time affected with a disease of the stomach, but was able to attend to business. On the 3rd, he was out as usual; but, on the morning of his death (the next day), he complained of coldness in the stomach, and expired.

On the evening of the 4th, the Queen visited the theatre, accompanied as usual by her uncle and cousin—not by the King. On her return, some alarm was created by a belief that two pistols had been fired as her carriage was passing. It appears that loud reports as of fire-arms were really heard close to the carriage; but the *Herald* says they were caused by some heavy substance having passed over two petards thrown by boys in the streets.

The Cortes have been prorogued by Royal ordinance, without any day being fixed for their re-assembling. Her Majesty left on the 5th, for Aranjuez. The King remains at Madrid during her absence.

The Countess de Torrejon has been appointed "Camerara Mayor," instead of the Marchioness de Santa Cruz.

PORTUGAL.

Lisbon letters of the 30th of April, give an account of a silly but rather serious movement which took place on the previous day, the object of which seems to have been, first, to liberate the prisoners in the Limeiro, where political offenders, as well as convicts, are confined, and then to make an attack upon the Castle. A sergeant of the guard at the Limeiro, as well as the turnkeys, had previously been tampered with for the release of the political prisoners, amounting to some eight hundred or a thousand. At about half-past four some hundred and twenty of these rushed out of the prison, some of them armed, and proceeded to the Castle, which they intended to take by surprise. Two soldiers of the Algarve division, however, saw them in time, and ran back to the Castle to give notice of the approach of the conspirators. The gates of the Castle were then closed, and a volley of musketry opened upon the assailants as they approached. Finding themselves foiled in this attempt, the escaped prisoners then made their way to the barracks at the Graça, where they were joined by others from the prison, who seized the arms and had a skirmish with the soldiers, chiefly recruits. They afterwards took themselves off in bodies in various directions, chiefly out of town, and a good number crossed the water, into the Alemtejo.

Meantime the general prisoners in the gaol, felons of various grades, assisted by the galley slaves, or out-door convicts, effected their escape also, and, miserable unhappy wretches! for the most part carrying their beds and baggage on their backs, under the weight of which they actually staggered. Others rushed in bands down the streets, headed by men of noted ill repute, crying "Viva liberdade!" and so forth.

The King, upon hearing of the outbreak, was quickly upon the spot, with a small piece of artillery in his rear. He remained with the soldiery about an hour, when the affair was pretty well over.

GERMANY.—FOOD RIOTS AND DISTRESS.

Letters from Stuttgart of the 4th inst., state that serious troubles occurred in that city on the previous evening. The people assembled before the shop of a rich baker, named Maier, who was designated as a forestaller. They broke the lamps in several streets, and constructed a barricade to the cries of "Liberty and bread!" The King mounted his horse, and, accompanied by the Prince Royal, Prince Frederick, and his staff, went into the principal street, in which 2000 soldiers were collected. It was night, and there being no lamps the obscurity was complete. Stones were thrown at the group in which the King was, and insulting cries were, it is said, uttered against his Majesty. The troops, assailed by stones, fired, and carried the barricade by force. Three men of the lower classes were killed, and several were wounded. Some soldiers were injured by stones, and Count Lippe, Governor of the town, was struck in the breast. More than fifty persons were arrested. About midnight the mob was dispersed, and tranquillity was re-established, but some of the troops remained in the streets all night.

The riots at Stuttgart have since been put down, but Wurtemberg is not yet free from outbursts of this kind. Its university town (Tübingen) has also to deplore acts of violence. On the 5th of May an attack was projected on the mill of the brothers Schweickhardt. Precautionary measures had been taken by the authorities, and the students of the university were called upon to co-operate in the maintenance of order. At ten at night, a considerable mob had assembled before the mill in question, and one of the doors was smashed in and the pillaging commenced. A body of students, armed with rapiers, interfered and compelled the pilagers to restore all they had taken; the place was then occupied by the military till four in the morning. The students formed their head-quarters in a neighbouring brewery. The brothers Schweickhardt were maltreated by the mob, and had it not been for timely interference it would have fared ill with them. Some of the professors appeared at the head of the students.

Distress is becoming universal in all parts of Germany. It has already led to many excesses, and is, unfortunately, likely to lead to more. Riots have taken place in several parts of Bohemia, at Eger and at Leitmeritz. At the latter place the mob cut off both the ears of a corn dealer. Disturbances were also feared in Aussig. In the district of Trantenua horseflesh was selling openly at a penny per pound. Several cases are mentioned of children being forsaken by their parents. There was again a slight break out at Ulm on the 3rd of May, but it was soon put down, the rioters having been instantly arrested. Food riots have taken place at Geisslingen and Blaubeuren: on the 3rd inst. a number of citizens assembled tumultuously before the town-house in the latter place crying out for corn. Further disturbance was, however, prevented by the head magistrate promising that a distribution of corn should be made. In several towns of the duchy of Posen, the prevailing distress has also given rise to excesses; amongst the rest, at Gnesen and Rogasen. Bodies of military have been sent to restore and preserve order.

THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.

The *Zurich*, American packet-ship, has brought us New York papers to the 21st ult. They do not contain any positive information about the further progress of the war in Mexico, but they throw some light upon the distribution of General Scott's army. On the 2nd of April, the main body was still encamped at Vera Cruz. General Quitman had marched upon Alvarado (on the shore twelve leagues S.E. of Vera Cruz) on the 30th of March; reports had reached Vera Cruz that he had met with opposition on his route, but they were not credited. On the 2nd of April, Colonel Harney was detached with the 2nd Dragoons to take possession of Antigua, eight miles north of Vera Cruz, at the mouth of the river of the same name. General Twigg, with the advance guard, had marched in the direction of the strong pass of Puerto Nacional, on the river Antigua, fourteen leagues N.W. of Vera Cruz, and the main body was to follow on or about the 5th of April.

Accounts from General Taylor were received at New Orleans on the 11th of April by the steamer *Telegraph*. The communications between Monterey and Camargo having been re-established, the General had returned to Saltillo. Urrea, it was understood, had retired behind the mountains, after the battle of Buena Vista, with 500 or 600 men. Canales had been heard of at Cerralvo, and a party of rangers under Captain Gray had been thrown out in that direction. It does not appear from the se communications whether General Taylor was in a condition to advance in the direction of San Luis Potosi, in order to make a diversion in favour of General Scott.

Colonel Doniphon is reported to have continued his advance after occupying Chihuahua, and to have taken three other towns. The names are not mentioned.

A letter from Philadelphia, dated April 17, says:—

"Advices from the Brazos, to the 2nd inst., have been received by an arrival at New Orleans. It is reported that the advance of General Taylor had overtaken that portion of the Mexican army under Generals Urrea and Canales, near Tula. A fight took place which lasted seven hours, at the expiration of which time General Taylor came up, and a general engagement ensued. The Mexicans were defeated with great loss. Report states that both the Generals, Urrea and Canales, were taken prisoners."

The *Troy* steamer, which brought the West India mails, on Monday, contains some news from Mexico.

About 2000 American troops were in possession of Tampico, but the city in other respects was perfectly tranquil. It appears that during the bombardment of Vera Cruz, on the 28th and 29th of March, about 200 lives were lost; but these were principally women and children, who perished in the ruins consequent upon the destruction of houses by the shells. About 4000 shells were thrown into the city, and it is calculated that about two-thirds of the place are destroyed.

IRELAND.

DANGEROUS STATE OF LORD BESBOROUGH.

We regret to find that the condition of the Lord Lieutenant is almost hopeless. He is said to be gradually dying. The following bulletin was issued on Wednesday:—

"The Lord-Lieutenant has had a quiet night, but his strength has not improved."

"PHILIP CRAMPTON,
"WILLIAM STOKES,
"JOHN F. PURCELL."

At four o'clock the answer at the Castle was, that his Excellency continues the same way.

FOOD RIOTING.

It appears, from the Irish papers, that the peasantry in some of the counties are in a very excited state. There have been riots in the counties of Limerick and Galway.

On Thursday morning (last week) about 1000 persons collected at Knockferna

all about the neighbourhood was kept up until a late hour of the night. Many of the countrywomen were seen carrying guns and pistols under their aprons.

About 2000 persons from the surrounding district entered the town of Ennis, on the same day, and paraded the streets, shouting and yelling, to the fear and terror of the inhabitants, many of whom closed their shops, apprehensive of a general attack. The majority of the peasantry were armed with spades and bludgeons, while the disorderly demeanour of the entire multitude, who vowed vengeance if they did not get employment, created general alarm. The authorities were compelled to call in the military before tranquillity was restored.

The *Galway Mercury* states that on Friday and Saturday large bodies of "half-famishing creatures" marched about the streets, carrying flags, on which were inscribed, "We are starving. Bread or employment." Several bread and provision carts were attacked outside the town. A troop of the 7th Hussars and a company of the 49th Regiment patrolled the streets, and saved the property of the townspeople.

On Monday morning one troop of Artillery, with two guns, two companies of the 59th, and a body of the 8th Hussars, under the command of Colonel Cator, proceeded to Rathkeale (county of Limerick) in consequence of an apprehended rising in that district. At Nanteen, the residence of Mr. Royste, an attack was made—twelve stand of arms were taken, and property chiefly consisting of provisions, such as bacon.

A letter from Ardacrusha (county Clare), dated Monday evening, says:—"This moment two policemen, who escaped by the back window of their barrack at Ardacrusha, came into town for a reinforcement to relieve their comrades, who were hemmed in by some two or three thousand of the peasantry. No time was lost in dispatching a troop of the 8th Hussars, in two detachments. The cause of this attack on the police, was their intervention in preserving the soup-kitchens, which were attacked and destroyed by the people. The police barrack windows were broken into atoms, and the inmates were obliged to fire on the populace in self-defence."

"Half-past eight o'clock.

"No lives were lost—one of the people was shot in the neck, and one taken prisoner. Mr. Delmege's (Castlepark) cattle were driven off the land. The *Pluto* (war-steamer) has been dispatched to Kidysart, with 50 troops."

INFAMOUS OUTRAGE UPON A PAY-CLERK.—On Thursday morning (last week) a most audacious attack was made on Mr. Slack, of Annadale, as he was passing through the plantations near Drinsey House, county of Leitrim, the residence of Mr. Peyton. It appears that Mr. Slack was going his accustomed rounds, accompanied by police, on Monday afternoon, when a violent pain and sickness compelled him to halt within a short distance of his own residence. He remained for the night in the house where he had alighted, and, unfortunately, dismissed the policeman. At an early hour on Tuesday morning he started again for his own house, and had proceeded as far as Anna Plantation, when, as he relates, six men with blackened faces jumped out on the road, and seized his horse's head, firing a pistol at the same time without effect; they then dragged him down from his seat, and, after seizing the bag, containing money to the amount of £350, they were about to depart, when one of them called out, "You shan't follow us;" and deliberately shot him through the leg, having previously gagged him by tying his driving whip in his mouth, twisting the lash round his head.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

THE POOR RELIEF (IRELAND) BILL.

The House disposed of the remaining clauses of this bill in Committee, and made some amendments, but they were of an unimportant nature.

Lord STANLEY then proposed the addition of what are generally known as the "Bentinck clauses" to the bill, imposing the burden of the rates upon the occupying tenants. He urged their Lordships to dismiss from their minds the misrepresentations which had been industriously circulated out of doors in reference to the amendment which he was about to submit to them. He denied that the proposition was a landlord's invention. The object which he had in view in making it was to adopt the best possible mode for carrying out this perilous experiment. The amendment was necessary to the safe working of the bill; and he felt convinced that unless they adopted it they could not reasonably expect to see the experiment conducted to its legitimate issue, without the most disastrous results. What he asked their Lordships to do was, to deal with Irish property as they would deem it safe to deal with English property. His object was to relieve the pressure of the poor-rates—to supersede the necessity for pauperism by furnishing the means of independent labour. The noble Lord then stated that the additional clause he should move would be to the effect that it should not be lawful for any occupier of rateable property, holding under any lease or agreement to be made or entered into after the passing of the act, nor for any tenant at will from year to year, after the 1st of January, 1849, to deduct from the rent to which he may be liable in respect of such property any amount whatever in respect of any rate which may be imposed at any period subsequent to the date of such lease or agreement, or subsequent to the 1st of January, 1849, as the case may be. The noble Lord then referred to the state of the law as regarded the collection of rates, and denied that they were equally distributed between landlord and tenant, or that an equal distribution would be the effect of the proposed bill. It was notorious that the rated value of the land was infinitely lower on the average than the renting value of the land. He did not, he said, ask their Lordships to make them so prospectively or after due time should be afforded for new and equitable arrangements between landlord and tenant, thus giving them a direct interest in the employment of the labourers. If the clause were right and sound in its principle, he hoped their Lordships would not have to undergo the degradation of being told they should not adopt it, lest, perchance, they might be met by an organised system of passive resistance out of doors, and that thereby the working of the bill might be defeated. Should they reject the clause, their Lordships might rest assured that they would render the condition of Ireland worse than it is, and make its future social improvement an impossibility.

The Marquis of LANDSOWNE opposed the clause, and several other Peers expressed their hostility to it.

Lord STANLEY, in reply, said he was gratified at finding that the principle embodied in his clause was so generally approved of; but he could not conceal his surprise at finding that their Lordships appeared resolved, notwithstanding, to reject it. He would not, under such circumstances, give them the trouble of dividing, but he must say he deeply regretted that the ground of opposition to his clause should have been that their Lordships were to be guided in their legislation, not by reason or justice, but by the prejudices of the Irish people.

The noble Lord then withdrew his motion, the House resumed, and the report was ordered to be brought up on Friday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

SUSPENSION OF THE CORN DUTIES.—In answer to a question from Mr. BAILLIE, Lord JOHN RUSSELL gave notice that he would on an early day move the further continuance of the suspension of the Corn Duties for a period of three months.

THE MONETARY CRISIS AND THE GOVERNMENT LOAN.

The House resolved itself into Committee on the Loan (Discount or Instalments) Resolution.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER moved a resolution to the effect that a discount of five per cent should be allowed to all persons who might make advances on account of the £8,000,000 loan on or before the 18th of June, and of four per cent on all instalments on or before the 10th of September. The object of the proposition, as well as that of the increase of the interest on Exchequer Bills, was to relieve the pressure in the money market, and he believed both measures were necessary to aid the credit of the country, and to give relief to its monetary transactions, which they would accomplish not so much by the quantity of capital they would set at liberty as by their effect in diminishing alarm and restoring confidence. The Chancellor of the Exchequer thus described his views of the monetary condition of the country:—"I believe that it will be good policy and good economy to ease the money market in any way we can. I shall also be glad to afford any reasonable facilities to the gentlemen who contracted the last loan. In consequence of circumstances which neither they nor the Government could foresee, it has not been a very good bargain for them. (Hear.) I believe it is no advantage to a Government, in any of its departments, to drive a hard bargain, for, if they attempt to do so, they are sure to pay for it in the end, and I believe it is equally opposed to the interest of both parties. Neither do I agree that this need necessarily entail any considerable loss upon the public. It is quite certain that if trade comes to a stand-still, the revenue will inevitably suffer. Within the fortnight during which the panic prevailed, the receipts in the Customs and other branches of the revenue fell off; but matters have since resumed their usual course, and I am glad to hear to-day that they are in a much better condition—that the power which many persons felt they had of obtaining loans on Exchequer Bills has to a great extent obviated the necessity of making those loans; and that the demand upon the Bank for loans, even at the rate of five per cent, has been to a very much less amount than was anticipated at the time the announcement was made. I stated on Friday, the amount which had been advanced by the Bank on that day on Saturday and to-day no very great amount has been asked for, and, in all respects, the money market is easier. The price of stocks has, to a small extent, declined, but

remove the restrictions upon credit which were now crippling and starving the trade of the country, and which, if it were allowed much longer to continue starving the trade, would starve the people of this country? If the present state of things were much longer protracted in this country the prices of grain and foreign provisions would soon place them beyond our reach; and he conceived himself to be only speaking literally when he said that before three months passed away this great country might find itself without sufficient food for the support of its people. But we could at once obtain food enough if credit were set at liberty. If the Government persevered in their present course of policy it would amount to starving the bellies of the people for the purpose of feeding with gold their idol—the Bank Charter Act. (Hear, hear.) The noble Lord quoted scripture in behalf of his views:—"They had tried the Bank Charter Bill for three years; they had found it fail—it was a tree that had not borne good fruit, and they should follow the example of 'A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none. Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none: cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?'

After several other members had spoken,

Sir R. PEEL answered the various objections made to the Bank Restriction Act; and, in reference to the present position of affairs, said—"On the whole, I approve of the course that the Government is now taking; at the same time, I cannot help feeling some apprehension—the rise in the price of corn which has this day been announced is, in every point of view, most painful. Do not suppose that I am not alive to the pressure, which, I regret to say, is not confined to this country. I greatly fear the effect of the increased pressure, though I am glad to hear from the right hon. gentleman, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that there is a prospect of improvement; at the same time, I regret to learn from other quarters that some money transactions have occasioned considerable embarrassment. I admit it to be a subject for deep and serious reflection. I further admit that no pedantic and rigid adherence to any principle ought to prevent us from considering the subject fully in all its bearings. If I, myself, thought that any relaxation of this bill would be a cure for the evil's which press upon us, I repeat that I would not oppose its relaxation on account of the part I found in introducing that measure to Parliament; but it is my firm belief—founded upon the information at present in my possession—that a temporary issue of some £2,000,000 of paper would not increase that capital which, in point of fact, is the source from which you can command the produce of other countries. (Hear, hear.) My great apprehension is, that by any such relaxation of the bill, by issuing notes on Exchequer Bills, by permitting the Bank to issue notes on paper security, we should purchase temporary relief from pressure at the risk of aggravating the very evils from which we are endeavouring to escape."

The resolution of the Chancellor of the Exchequer was agreed to.

THE HEALTH OF TOWNS BILL.—Lord MORPETH announced that, in consequence of the state of public business, he should only propose this session to apply the provisions of the Health of Towns Bill to the corporate towns, leaving the metropolitan corporation untouched.

The House adjourned at one o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

ROYAL ASSENT.—The Royal assent was given by commission to the Customs Duties Bill, the Portland Harbour Bill, the Commons Enclosure (No. 2) Bill, the Prisons (Ireland) Bill, the Harbours, Docks, and Piers Clauses Bill, the Ipswich Gas Bill, the Cheltenham Water-works Bill, and the Pile Piers Extension Bill.

SUPPLY OF CORN IN ENGLAND.

The Earl of HARDWICKE put several questions to the Government respecting the quantity of corn at present in the country, and stated that it was strongly impressed on his mind that the supply of wheat which we possessed was not sufficient to sustain our population until the next harvest came in. He was, he said, led to this conclusion by the rapid decrease of wheat in his own county, and by all the inquiries which were made as to the general supply throughout the country.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE said he could only give an opinion upon the subject, for there were no sources of information open to the Government which were not equally open to every individual in the country. He would, however, state his belief that very large quantities of corn had been imported into this country. "With regard to the importation to be expected from America, he could not give the noble Earl satisfactory and accurate information, as he had not the means of acquiring it, but he would state what he was sure would give the noble Earl great satisfaction, namely, that there was an enormous and increasing amount of corn imported up to this moment (cheers) into the country. Up to the present period the increased importation would appear from the following return. In January there were imported 661,000 quarters; in February 557,000 quarters; in March 929,000 quarters; and in April 1,043,000 quarters (hear, hear); thus clearly indicating that in proportion as there was an increasing demand, and an appearance of deficiency, which, at an early period of the year, was not perceived, there had been a corresponding effort made by trade to supply the demand, and if that importation of corn continued in the same ratio, the whole supply received before the next harvest would be 9,000,000 quarters. (Hear.) The statement he was about now to allude to was particularly satisfactory, since it showed the complete command of the markets of the world which this country enjoyed. From the moment it became known that other countries were unfortunately labouring under the same deficiency that afflicted us, an unceasing and increasing action was kept up by those large and populous countries of Europe where the deficiency and the necessity for an increased supply were daily becoming more apparent. Yet, under these circumstances, the whole of the exports of corn from the United States to the world at large amounted to 2,170,000 quarters, and of that amount not more than 500,000 quarters had found their way to any other part of the world than this country, leaving this country in possession of four times the amount exported from America to all the rest of the world. (Hear, hear.) And, whilst he made this statement, he might add that he had no reason to apprehend that that supply from America was likely to diminish; but, on the contrary, it was the opinion of those most likely to be well informed, that not only should we ensure the receipt of all the corn in America which had been destined for this country, but we might also ensure a portion of the corn which had originally been intended for other countries."

Lord ASHBURTON expressed his serious apprehension that the hope entertained by the Marquis of Lansdowne of increased supplies from America, would not be realised.

The report on the Landed Property (Ireland) Bill was received, and, some other formal business having been disposed of, the House, at eight o'clock, adjourned till Friday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

THE WHITSUN HOLIDAYS.—Lord J. RUSSELL gave notice that on Friday, the 21st inst., he should move the adjournment of the House for the Whitsun holidays, to Friday, the 28th inst. The noble Lord also gave notice that he would at the same time move that after the Whitsun holidays orders of the day shall take precedence of notices of motion on Thursdays.

THE POOR REMOVAL BILL.—Mr. G. BANKE moved for leave to bring in a bill to repeal the first clause of the Poor Removal Bill.—Sir G. GREY assented to the introduction of the bill, on the distinct understanding that hon. members were not in any way pledged to its principle, and that the objections against it should remain in force. Leave was given to bring in the bill.

THE LOAN.—Several hon. members postponed their motions to give way to the anticipated discussion on the report of the Loan Discount resolutions. Lord J. RUSSELL moved the bringing up of the report of the Committee on the Loan Discount. The report was brought up, the resolutions read a first and second time, and leave was given to bring in a bill founded thereon, without a single remark. The rapidity with which these several motions passed excited much laughter, a long discussion having been expected.

The Health of Towns Bill was read a second time.

The Poor Removal (Ireland) Supervision Bill, and the County Buildings Bill, were severally read a third time and passed.

The Incumbered Estates (Ireland) Bill was read a second time.

The House of Commons Costs Taxation Bill passed through Committee.

The Turnpike Roads (Ireland) Bill, and the Lunatic Asylums (Ireland) Bill, were read a second time.

The other orders of the day were disposed of, and the House adjourned at six o'clock, many members testifying their joy at the unexpected release by huzzing and waving of hats. There was only a two hours' sitting, instead of a protracted and wearisome one, as was anticipated.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

THE PIUS AND CHARITABLE PURPOSES BILL.—Lord JOHN MANNERS moved the second reading of the Pious and Charitable Purposes Bill, the objects and provisions of which he explained. The intention of the measure was to allow lands to be bequeathed for charitable purposes, provided that they should be sold within two years after the death of the testator.—Sir George GREY opposed the bill, and moved as an amendment that it be read a second time that day six months.—Lord CLIVE and Sir W. HEATHCOTE supported the bill.—Sir Robert INGLIS and Mr. NEWDEGATE opposed it. On the division there were—for the second reading, 20; against it, 166; majority against the bill, 146.

THE POOR RATES (IRELAND) BILL.

On the motion of Mr. SHARMAN CRAWFORD, the Poor Rates (Ireland) Bill was committed *pro forma*, in order to have the 6th clause expunged, and other amendments made in it.

On the motion that the report be received for the purpose of having the bill recommitted on a future day, Mr. STAFFORD O'BRIEN opposed the motion, and called on the Government to declare how far they were prepared to go in altering the law of rating for the poor in Ireland.

Sir G. GREY said he did not think the state of the law of rating for the poor in Ireland satisfactory, but he reserved his opinion upon the bill until it should come regularly before him in Committee, with the amendments made in it by Mr. Crawford.

Some further discussion ensued, and on a division, the motion was rejected by 81 to 55.

The motion for the second reading of Sir C. Napier's Seamen's Enlistment Bill, was negatived without a division.

THE HEALTH OF TOWNS BILL.—Lord MORPETH moved that the Health of Towns Bill be committed *pro forma*, to receive amendment(s); and gave notice that he would not proceed further with it until after the Whitsun holidays.—Colonel SIBTHORP objected to the formal commitment of bills, and moved that the House be counted. There not being 40 members present, an adjournment took place at a quarter to six.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

RAILWAY CALLS.—Mr. MACKINNON gave notice that, on Thursday next, he should move for leave to bring in a bill relating to calls made by railway companies.

DUTY ON FOREIGN WINES.

Dr. BOWRING moved, "That this House will immediately resolve itself into a committee for the purpose of reducing the duty on foreign wines." The hon. member referred to a number of documents, to show the extent and importance of the foreign wine trade, and the amount of revenue it brought into the exchequer of this country. He was convinced that a reduction of the duty would prove most beneficial to the public, and not injurious to the revenue.

Mr. EWART seconded the motion. A reduction of the duty on foreign wine must generally increase the amount of commercial transactions between this country and France.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, in the present state of the revenue, he should not feel himself justified in agreeing to the motion.

The motion, after some discussion, was negatived.

Mr. S. WORTLEY then moved for a commission to enquire into the state and operation of the Law of Marriage, as relating to the prohibited degrees of affinity. The hon. member supported his motion in a lengthened speech; and the Government assenting, the motion was agreed to.

Sir W. H. BARRON then moved for a Committee to enquire into the means of improving the Fisheries of Ireland. An animated debate ensued: but the motion was negatived, on a division, by a large majority.

The remaining business was unimportant, and the House rose at twelve o'clock.

RAILWAY COMMITTEES.—There was a decision of some importance on Monday in Group 15, affirmatively for the Great Northern, but negatively for the Eastern Counties and Enfield and Edmonton, as regards their proposal for completing the net-work of rail for the north-eastern districts. The committee were of opinion that the preamble of the Great Northern (Hertford, Hatfield, and St. Albans' Branch) had been "proved;" and that the preambles of the Eastern Counties (Hertford to Hitchin &c.), and Enfield and Edmonton Extension had "not been proved." The London and North-Western (St. Albans, Luton, and Dunstable) cannot be proceeded with until the Railway Commissioners have made their report.—On Wednesday, in group 18, the committee decided that the preamble of the bill of the North Staffordshire (Churnet Valley and Trent Valley Junction) was not proved.—In Group 25, the Committee on the Manchester and Birmingham and North Staffordshire Junction, decided that the preamble was proved.—On Thursday, in Group 42, novelty was under discussion, in the shape of an Indian Railway, the Great India Peninsula (from Bombay to Alleh, with Extensions, &c.). Mr. Austen, who appeared for the promoters, stated that, in deference to the East India House, and to the Board of Control, the promoters considered it advisable not to proceed with the Bill during the present session, and therefore he begged to withdraw it. Sir R. PEEL (the Chairman) intimated that he would make a report to that effect to the House of Commons.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS RECENTLY DECEASED.

THE ARCH-DUKE CHARLES OF AUSTRIA.

The Archduke Charles was born the 5th September, 1771. Carried away by a decided vocation for the profession of arms, the Archduke Charles, in 1793, at the early age of twenty-two years, was entrusted with the command of the vanguard of the Prince of Coburg. In this campaign and that of the following year he distinguished himself by services so brilliant, that in 1795 he was appointed to the command of the Austrian army then operating on the Rhine. As Commander-in-Chief he had the honour of vanquishing Jourdan, and compelling General Moreau to make that famous retreat which forms perhaps the most brilliant episode in his military career. At the same time, whilst the Archduke was obtaining such signal triumphs on the banks of the Rhine, the Imperial armies were destroyed in Italy by General Bonaparte, who was then carrying on his first campaign in the capacity of Commander-in-Chief. Summoned to Italy in order to repair the disasters of the Austrian Generals, the Archduke found nothing but disorganized remains. He struggled, however, with firmness and fortitude; and if he was compelled to retrograde as far as the plains of Campofiorio, he nevertheless gave evidence, in the course of this campaign, of talents that gained him the esteem of Napoleon.

After the rupture of the peace of Campo Formio, the Archduke Charles was once more called to take the command of the Austrian army on the banks of the Rhine. He then took part in the operations of the Russian armies which were destroyed in Switzerland by Massena. The Russians afterwards accused him as the cause of their reverse; and the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, seconded in Vienna by a party which already dreaded his glory and popularity, obtained his recall. Events, however, were not long in avenging him. After the battle of Hohenlinden, when the victorious armies of France no longer saw any obstacles before them, and were preparing to invade the territories of Austria, the Court of Vienna was too happy to recall the disgraced Archduke to active service. On the conclusion of the peace of Luneville, in 1801, the Archduke Charles became Minister of War, and displayed, in this new capacity, an activity and talents which restored to Austria a finer army, perhaps, than any she had ever before possessed. In 1805, she thought herself in a position to resume hostilities against France; the third coalition was formed, and the Archduke, at first despatched to Italy, was soon recalled thence after the fatal battle of Austerlitz.

After the peace of Presburg, being charged once more with the reorganization of the armies of Austria, he opposed, to the utmost of his power, but unfortunately without success, the resumption of arms which drew down upon Austria the dreadful disaster of Wagram. It was he who commanded the Imperial army in that memorable campaign, and it was the last act of his military career. The Archduke Charles quitted active service in 1809, and after that period always lived in a retirement which was incessantly embellished and animated by glory, popularity, and study. The Archduke Charles is the author of several works on the art of war, which are highly esteemed by all competent judges. Married to a Princess of Nassau, the Archduke Charles has left four sons, of whom one, the Archduke Frederick, is a Captain in the Austrian navy, and two daughters, the elder of whom is now Queen of the two Sicilies. The Archduke died at Vienna, on the 30th ultimo.

HENRY-JEFFREY, VISCOUNT ASHROOK. THIS noble Peer, who had been for some time past in a delicate state of health, died suddenly on Tuesday afternoon, the 4th instant, at his seat, Beaumont Lodge, Old Windsor. His Lordship, the only surviving son of William, second Viscount Ashbrook, was born 16th November, 1776, and succeeded to the family honours at the decease of his elder brother, in 1802.

In the reign of William IV, he held office as one of the Lords of the Bedchamber, and had the honour of being selected to sit at the head of the coffin, while the remains of the Monarch were lying in state at Windsor Castle.

He married, first, 26th May, 1802, Deborah Susannah, only daughter and heiress of Thomas Walker, Esq., of Woodstock. By this lady (who died 25th April, 1810) he had one son, Henry, now Lord Ashbrook, who assumed, by sign manual, in 1827, the surname and arms of Walker; and two daughters, Susan Sophia, married, first, to the Rev. William Robinson, and secondly to W. Wilson Campbell, Esq.; and Caroline, married to Henry Every, Esq., of Eggington House, county Derby. His Lordship's second wife was Emily Theophila, eldest daughter of Sir Thomas Metcalfe, Bart., and by her he has left one surviving daughter, Charlotte Augusta, Duchess of Marlborough.

The family of Flore, or Flower, formerly seated at Oakham, county Rutland, represented that shire in Parliament, temp. Richard II, in the person of Roger Flower, who was chosen Speaker of the House of Commons. The Irish branch was founded by Sir George Flower, a military officer, distinguished in Queen Elizabeth's wars; and it still enjoys considerable property in the county of Kilkenny, granted to that eminent soldier. Beaumont Lodge, where the deceased Peer expired, was formerly the residence of Warren Hastings.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR JOHN MAY, K.C.B., K.C.H. On Saturday, the 8th instant, died, at his residence in Hyde Park-street, Major-General Sir John May, K.C.B., K.C.H., &c., Colonel of the Royal Artillery, in which distinguished corps he served since 1795. This gallant officer was present throughout the entire Peninsular campaign, and at Quatre Bras and Waterloo. For his services in the former he received a Cross and three Clasps, and for the latter, the Order of St. Anne of Russia, Second Class. He was also nominated a Knight of the Tower and Sword of Portugal in 1815. Sir John May was son of John May, Esq., Store-keeper of the Ordnance, Guernsey, and descended lineally from John May, the historian and poet. He married in 1819 the only child of Robert Broff, Esq., formerly governor of Bengoolen, Sumatra, and at his decease was in his 67th year.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

EPISTOME OF NEWS.—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

At the latter end of April the cold at Stockholm was extremely rigorous, and the numerous lakes in the neighbourhood of that city, as well as the port and roadstead, to the extent of about four leagues, were so solidly frozen that carts heavily laden could pass over. Peasants attending the Stockholm market had traversed in their carts about sixteen leagues on the ice. Such an excessive cold at such a season is unexampled.

A declaration or protest was lately signed by a portion of the Prussian Diet against accepting the decree of the King for the convocation of the Diet as a full realisation of the laws made and revised by the late Monarch. We learn that this declaration, signed by 160 deputies, has been received by the Marshal of the Diet, and that it will probably be brought under discussion.

The Augsburg Gazette publishes the following lines from Lola Montez, dated Munich, April 29:—"Worn out with being made the mark of so many secret and public malicious reports, I denounce as infamous calumniators all who speak, write, or print evil against me without being able to prove it."

The Hamburg papers contain accounts from Pomerania to the effect that a famine is approaching at Lauenberg; and accounts from Kolberg say that since the opening of the navigation the exportation of corn, not only to the provinces, but also to foreign countries, continues without ceasing, and that provisions of all kinds are daily becoming dearer and more scarce; the prices keep up, and the bakers are partly in want of money; several have ceased working, and bread is still very dear.

A claimant for the Preston and Esk Peerage has made his appearance in the person of Sir R. Graham, Bart. The claim has been referred to the Committee of Privileges.

The arrivals of foreign grain at Leith have been upwards of 36,000 quarters weekly for some time back, principally from the lower Baltic ports. On the opening of the Russian rivers there will probably be a great increase in the imports of rye, rye meal, oats, &c.

The Second Chamber of Darmstadt has decided that children under nine years of age shall not be allowed to work in the manufactories; children of from nine to twelve may be authorised by the police to work for a period not exceeding eight hours each day, and those between twelve and sixteen may work ten hours. There are more than 40,000 children employed in the manufactories in the Grand Duchy of Hesse Darmstadt.

The Sheffield Athenaeum was opened last week, and an inaugural discourse was delivered on the occasion by Mr. Charles Knight, of London.

The President of Haiti has issued a decree, permitting steamers in the packet service, touching at Jacmel, to import foreign merchandise thither, and to return to sea immediately, without being liable to any detention beyond the time necessary for the landing of the goods and the return of letters—such merchandise being consigned to one commercial house alone.

A return showing the sums deposited in, and withdrawn from military savings-banks during the year ending the 31st of March, 1846, announces the former to have been £36,234, and the latter £24,563.

The Irish Poor Relief Commissioners state, in their first report, that between the 27th of February and the 10th of April, in the shape of circulars, instructions



RIGA, FROM AN ORIGINAL PAINTING.

FOREIGN CORN PORTS.—RIGA.

RIGA and CRONSTADT, have, of late, attracted very considerable attention. Their condition, at this period, is annually a point of interest; but, at the present season of scarcity, it acquires additional importance; for, the opening of the navigation of the great rivers upon which these ports are situated, promises, this year, to be attended with unusual results. Advices from St. Petersburg to the 21st of April state:—

"We just hear that the ice has commenced to break up at within five versts of the source of the Neva, and we may consequently expect the same event here in about a week. In a fortnight from that time the shipping generally commences at Cronstadt." Regarding the exchange it is observed:—"Although our present rates of exchange, on account of the little business doing, may go somewhat lower, still we are of opinion that, as soon as the shipping commences, they will rise again."

"From Riga we learn that the last accounts from Biela state, that on the 13th of April the ice had broken up, and that more than 800 barges were in readiness to sail for Riga as soon as the river should be sufficiently clear.

"Advices from St. Petersburg, to the 26th of April, state a recurrence of winter weather. The grain market was, nevertheless, firm, rye in particular being in good demand. From Riga, under date the 29th of April, the exchange is quoted 39 5-16. Both flax and grain were firm, and the hemp barks were daily expected. The mass of floating ice in the bay still prevented the entrance of ships."

RIGA, owing to its advantageous situation, near the mouth of the Duna, about seven miles above its entrance into the Gulf of Riga, has a very extensive trade; being, of the Russian towns on the Baltic, in this respect second only to St. Petersburg. The exports consist of the great staple articles of Russian produce, corn, timber, flax, hemp, linseed, tal-

low, Russia leather, and sail-cloth. Riga wheat is inferior to that of Danzig. Two descriptions are shipped—one the growth of Russia, the other of Courland; the last is the best, being larger bodied, and of a brighter colour, than the Russian; still, it makes but indifferent flour. Oats are of good quality, and are largely exported. The mast trade is extensive; and wainscot logs are much exported to England, and are very superior. The trade is chiefly carried on by foreign merchants, particularly by the English.

The river is wide, the port very spacious and secure; and the merchantmen come up to the quays. In summer, a bridge of pontoons, loosely attached to piles, and rising and falling with the tide, is laid across the river: this bridge is 40 feet wide, and 2600 feet long, and is a pleasant and fashionable promenade.

The town is surrounded with ramparts and bastions: it has a strong citadel, and is otherwise well fortified, so that it is considered one of the most important bulwarks of the Russian empire. It has about 4000 houses, 1000 of which are of stone; there are 14 churches, and an Imperial palace, arsenal, and several other public buildings. It has suffered several times by fires and inundations; to the latter it is much exposed, by the banks of the river being very low. Thus, at the breaking up of the ice in 1814, 400 houses were swept away with their inhabitants, together with immense quantities of timber, and 80 vessels laden with hemp.

The numerous ships in the river, the bustle in the streets, and the well-stocked warehouses and shops, are indications of the extensive trade of which Riga is the centre. Our view of the Port, is from a painting in the possession of a City merchant, obligingly proffered for engraving in our series of "Foreign Corn Ports."

CRONSTADT ("The Town of the Crown,") the companion subject, is a town, fortress, and port, in the Russian Government of St. Petersburg, from which city it is about thirty-one miles distant. It is built at the south-eastern extremity of Cottlin-Ostrof, an island in that part of the Gulf of Finland, called the Bay of Cronstadt, about sixteen miles from the mouth of the Neva. At the entrance of the harbour, on an island opposite the citadel, lies the fortress of Cronschlott, built by Peter the Great, who termed it his window of Europe.

Besides its importance as the great naval station of the Russian fleet, Cronstadt is the harbour of St. Petersburg. All vessels proceeding to that port are searched there, and their cargoes sealed; and such as are too large for the shallow waters of the Neva unload their cargoes at Cronstadt, and transport them in smaller craft.

There are three harbours; but vessels are detained a great part of the year by ice in the Bay of Cronstadt, which usually prevents them from entering after the end of November, or leaving before the end of April, or sometimes even later. Peter the Great decreed an annual prize of 1000 roubles to the first vessel that should arrive at Cronstadt on the breaking-up of the ice. The passage is a dangerous one; and in making it, some years since, an English steam-boat is stated to have been lost.

The population of the town in summer exceeds 40,000 individuals, of various nations, of these, next to the Russians, the English are the most numerous.

The breaking-up of the ice of the Neva, and the white winter of St. Petersburg, are thus picturesquely described in the "Life of a Travelling Physician":—

The river takes its rise from the Ladoga, thirty miles distant from the town; and the stream is very rapid as it rises from the lake, so it is at this point that disintegration of the ice first commences. This event is telegraphed from the fortress of Schlisselberg, situated at the mouth of the river. The dissolution of the body is gradual; an isolated mass of ice loosened from its holds is carried down the stream, and, pressing against a resisting mass, forces it also to yield; as the floating particles increase from above, the pressure becomes greater and the resistance less, and a channel is formed in the centre of the stream, for there the current is strongest, and this becomes freed long before the sides of the river. An impediment to the speedy dissolution of the whole mass is frequently afforded by the roads which cross the river, and which, being covered by a mixture of sand and snow trodden down, do not feel the sun's influence like the rest of the surface. Hence, a piece of ice half a verst long will not force its way through them, so firm is the resistance which they offer, and it becomes necessary to saw the roads through. It is not uncommon to see people walking along these roads when all above and below them is a mass of floating ice. The whole of this process is often the source of great amusement. If the weather be warm and fine, the quays are crowded with people amusing themselves with the sight of this disintegration of the mass; all eyes are directed towards the bridge, where the people and carriages throng; many get out of their vehicles and walk over, hurry through their business on the opposite side, anxious to retrace their steps before the bridge has swung away. A trifling circumstance may hasten or retard this event. When least expected, away it swings, and gain and loss are counted.

It is beautiful to witness the breaking up of a field of solid ice, which is in a semi state of decay. A large wedge comes down upon it, perhaps part of a road insinuates itself into it, and, breaking it through, throws up its fluted spicula on each side in a thousand spangling forms. It is curious, also, to see the various things which float down with the large pieces of ice. Boats stranded in the ice as they attempted to cross in the autumn; enclosures of rails made for the washerwomen; stacks of hay, suddenly carried away from the river's side; an unfortunate cow, plenty of dogs, all travelling gratis down the stream. I have seen a flock of geese, standing upon a floating island, pass through the centre of the town before they took wing.

A few hours suffice for the transit of the river ice into the gulph, for this takes place previous to the breaking up of the Ladoga. As soon as the river is clear, so that boats may cross, a cannon announces that the governor of the fortress has crossed: an ancient custom. Previous to this cannon shot no private boat can pass. As soon as the signal is given, the stream is covered over with boats of all sizes.

This is the moment to see the Neva in all its glory—cleared of ice, and no bridges in the way to detract from its magnitude. It has the appearance of a large lake divided by an insular jet of land into two great branches. It flows slowly but majestically along, and its pure crystal stream reflects the dazzling sunbeams which play upon its surface.

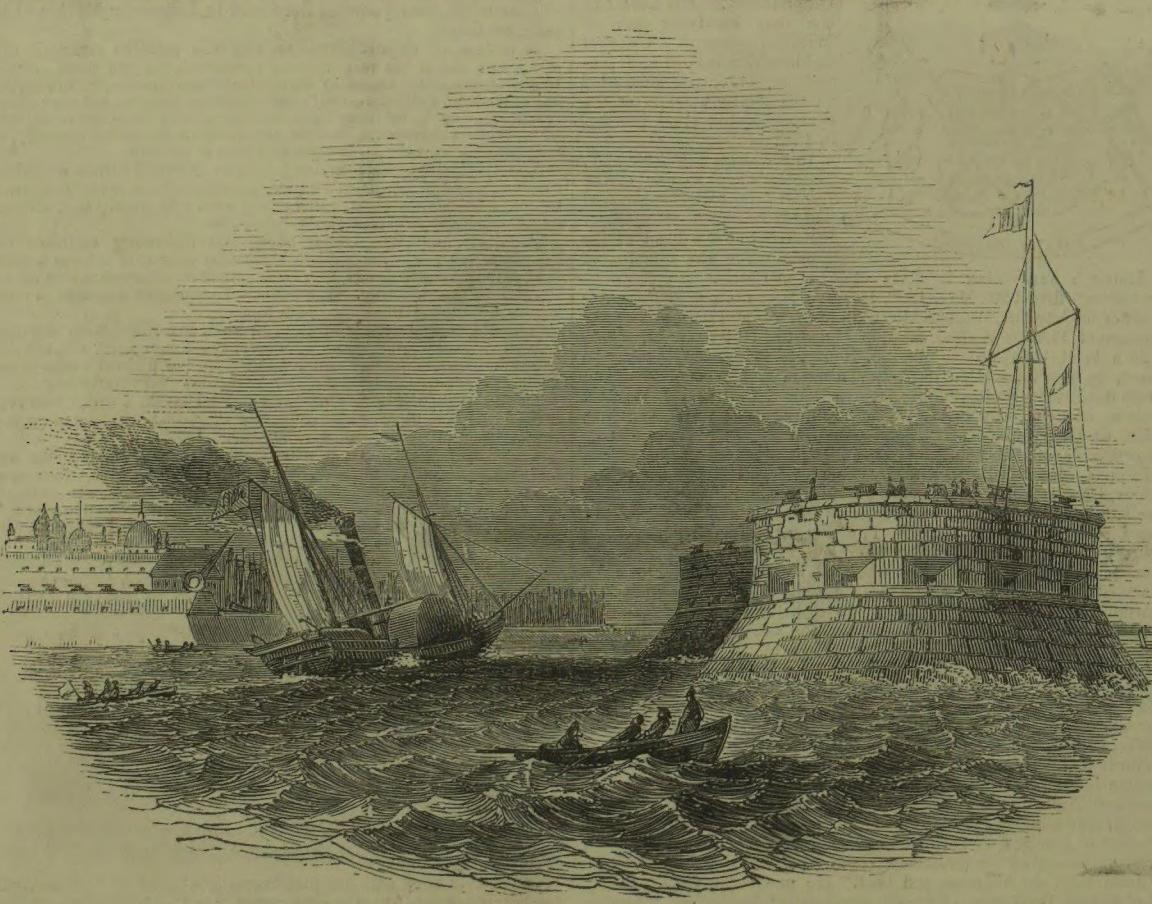
The view of Petersburg from a balcony of the English quay, which takes in many of the public buildings, and the splendid stream flowing through the centre of one of the finest cities in Europe, must be seen at this time to be duly appreciated. It is magnificent!

The next financial operation consists in laying wagers upon the arrival of ships in Cronstadt. This is another very uncertain speculation, and seldom takes place for some days, or even weeks after the departure of the Neva ice. There is no tide, no current in the gulf, so that the ice remains quiescent, till it is partly dissolved by heat and rain, or completely shattered to atoms by waves and wind. Large masses are often drifted on the shores.

Till this be accomplished, no ships can arrive; and the average term of their entering Cronstadt is about the fifth of May. Then the season, to use the factory term, commences. The navigation of the Baltic at this season is by no means safe nor comfortable. Ships leave England at various periods, and, if the winds are favourable, may arrive at the edge of the ice in the gulf, and remain starving there with cold for a fortnight before they can come into port. When the ice does begin to move, they are often in great danger, for they must drift at the good pleasure of the floating ice. The rudder is of no avail, and the sharp ice sometimes cuts them through, and they founder.

This may occur even more frequently in the autumn, when the ice is more hard and solid. Ships arrive within various distances of the port, when their progress is impeded by the discovery of a field of ice. Here they must remain till the following spring, unless some hurricane shall again break up the ice and allow them to proceed. It does occasionally happen that the first winter dissolves, and a second commences. When fairly fixed at the edge of the ice, there they must remain, if no such extraordinary circumstance chance to free them. If ships are thus arrested within a mile of Cronstadt, a contract is formed with workmen to cut canals and tow them into port. The ship *Archangel* was caught and fixed in the ice seven versts below Cronstadt. A canal was sawed through at the expense of £150 sterling. She had a valuable cargo. A ship which had accompanied her on her voyage was cut through by the ice and foundered. Such are the inconveniences of navigating the Baltic early and late in the season.

Our Illustration is from a Drawing by M. Manuel, the Russian artist.

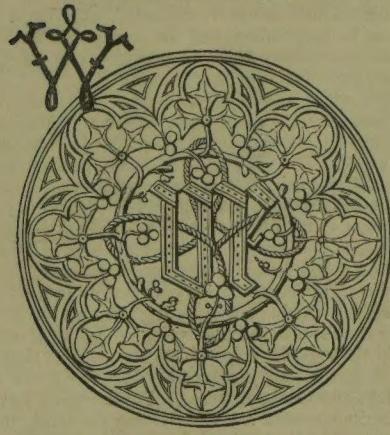


CRONSTADT.—ARRIVAL OF THE FIRST SHIP AFTER THE BREAKING UP OF THE NEVA ICE.

THE NEW HOUSE OF LORDS.

(Concluded from page 294.)

WARMING AND VENTILATING, AND LIGHTING.



ORNAMENT FROM BACK OF THE QUEEN'S STATE CHAIR. A is the House of Lords; D, the Victoria Lobby or Hall; and E, the Peers' Lobby. a a a, the chambers under the House, &c., divided from

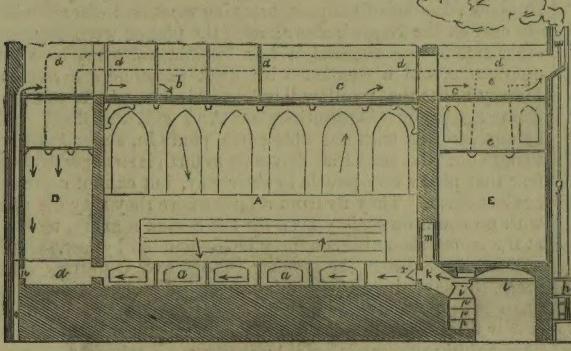
I trust that the following description of the plans adopted in Warming and Ventilating the House are more full than any hitherto published; and the illustrative diagrams will be found especially interesting. To insure accuracy, we have submitted our sectional drawings and descriptions to Mr. T. Quarrell, the chief clerk of the works, who most kindly pointed out and corrected errors; and for which attention our best thanks are due.

Our Engravings show sections, longitudinal and transverse, of the House of Lords and adjoining Lobbies, to elucidate the actions of the air in its various currents.

In the Longitudinal Section, A is the House of Lords; D, the Victoria Lobby or Hall; and E, the Peers' Lobby. a a a, the chambers under the

House, &c., divided from the extreme parts of the House, being *perfect*, the apartment being *entirely* scented from the supply chambers; and, in fifteen or sixteen minutes all trace of perfume has passed off. Indeed, so completely has the plan adopted answered the expectations of its gifted inventor, and so perfect is the onward action of the currents of air in their prescribed courses, that in some experiments carried on in the presence of Mr. Faraday, a perfumed atmosphere was only to be detected at one side and to about the centre of the House, some pastilles having been burnt in the air-chamber below the side of the House where Mr. Faraday observed the scent to be diffused; so that the air, laden with the fragrant odour, as a tell-tale, had passed through the flues, and onwards, into the House, and had afterwards passed through the vivified air-chamber exactly in the direction intended; and which the small arrows in our diagrams correctly point out.

The gas lights are upon Faraday's system, so as to prevent the carbonic acid gas, and other deleterious products of combustion from entering the apartment illuminated. The action of the principle is simple, and it is this:—The air rushes through a perforated plate to supply the gas flame, and having parted with its



it by a perforated iron floor, rendered air-tight from the House by a covering of lead. These chambers are for either hot or cold air, as may be required. b, the fresh air chambers in the roof; c, the vivified ditto; and this part of the building we have shown in double section, one half to represent the fresh chamber, the other the foul, or vivified. The dotted line d d indicates an iron tube for conveying the foul air from the Victoria Hall to the discharge shaft, wherein, as will be hereafter described, is a steam-jet, f, for moving the air; e is the foul air tube from the Peers' Lobby to the same shaft; g, the discharge shaft and chimney to the engines; h is one of Lord Dundonald's steam boilers; i, the cokels; k, the bulls'-eyes through which the air passes, after leaving the cokels, to enter the diffusing chambers, a a; l, the steam-pipe to supply the cokels; m, the room where the temperature is regulated; n, the flues in the south wall of the Victoria Hall, up which the air passes with great velocity to the supply-chambers over the ceiling, two flues being appropriated to the Victoria Lobby, and four to the House of Lords; o, continuation of flue for air from basement. Each flue has an area of six feet, thereby allowing the passage, with the ordinary velocity, as indicated by the anemometer, of upwards of 7000 cubic feet of air per minute; p p, air-passages to supply the cokels with fresh air; r, doors at the bulls'-eyes, to shut off the hot air from the cokels when required.

In the Transverse Section, A is the House of Lords; B B, the lower corridors; C C, the upper ditto; a a, the air chambers under the House; b b, the fresh air chambers over the ceiling; c, the vivified chamber; d, the tube for conveying the foul air from the Victoria Hall. Flues are constructed in each pier, between the windows, to convey air, if required, to the under side of the cove of the galleries, the quatrefoil enrichments of which are ingeniously perforated, and covered by wire gauze inside. This wire-gauze is quite invisible to the general visitor, and appears to be only a deep shadow in the quatrefoils; its real character we should never have discovered, had it not been pointed out.

We give a section of the arrangement of the cokels, that our readers may completely understand the means employed in ventilation:—i i are steam cokels, which are iron boxes, having pipes running quite through them, the spaces between the pipes being hollow, so as to allow of a circulation of steam or water amongst them. As the cokels rest upon iron girders, there are passages underneath, and these are supplied with fresh air from the perforated zinc plate z. The air, having no other means of exit, passes through the tubes in the cokels; and, as they are kept hot by steam playing round them, constantly supplied by the engine, gets heated there, and goes into the bulls'-eyes k, and onwards, as before described. That as little waste of water as possible may occur, the cokels are elevated just a little above the level of the steam boilers, so that, whatever condensation takes place, its proceeds return to the boilers. Iron doors are inserted at the passages, so as to cut off the supply from the lower part of the cokels, if cooler air is wanted, and a door at the top passage to admit the air to circulate about and above the cokels, but not through it.

Having described the leading features, we will now endeavour fully to explain to our readers the currents and effects produced.

The air gains admission through an iron perforated door direct from the river, through a ventilation passage, into a small chamber, on the floor of which there are five or six inches of water, and passes through a finely perforated zinc screen, over which water is constantly trickling, and it is thus freed from all impurities. It then passes through the pipes of the cokels, which are heated by the steam, and, thoroughly warmed, from thence it proceeds, through the bulls'-eyes, to the chamber under the House of Lords, and thus nearly 40,000 cubic feet of air, freed from all impurities, are always ready for admission into the House. The air next passes up the flues in the wall of the Victoria Lobby, into the supply-chambers over the ceilings.

The vivified air being drawn off from the chamber by the action of the steam-jet, a constant stream of similar air is rising from the House, through the perforated enrichments of the beams in the central division; and, to keep up the supply thus incessantly, yet imperceptibly, passing off, a current of fresh air is, equally imperceptibly, always pouring down, from the open work in the beams at the side divisions of the ceiling, to the floor of the House, where the two currents meet in the centre, and ascend to the foul air chamber, whence, being then under the influence of the steam-jets, they are rapidly drawn away. The foregoing is a description of the mode of obtaining fresh heated air into the House, first using it as a means of warming the floor, in summer, from below, and afterwards allowing it to supply the apartments.

Should the temperature in the House be too high, it can be diminished by closing the doors of the flues in the air chamber under the House, and, by opening other doors in them, currents of cold air can be drawn from the basements, through finely perforated screens, at a very low temperature, not exceeding 45° or 50° in the midst of summer. A provision has also been made to keep the cokels supplied with a constant stream of cold water, in summer, to cool the air which will be passed through them.

By an ingenious adaptation, the chimney or shaft, that conveys the smoke from the steam boiler is made the shaft for carrying off the vivified air, and this is invaluable, as the velocity of the air in the shaft caused by the heat of the boiler, independent of the heat evolved by the steam-jets, must be very great, and thus the tower in which is the shaft is useful for two purposes as well as highly ornamental.

The upper part of this shaft has been ingeniously contrived that the influence of the jets is entirely separated from the smoke issuing from the steam-boiler fires, by means of a separation, in the flue, of sheet-iron, three feet in height above the top of the jets. Three sides of the shaft are separated off in this manner; the other side is for the foul air admission to the shaft.

The diffusion of the air in the House without draughts being perceptible to any of the Peers, must be a convincing proof of the success of the plan; but, if further evidence were required, it is furnished by the fact that nearly one hundred very large wax candles are burning in the evenings unprotected by any glass, as under ordinary circumstances, and the flames are as steady as would be the case with candles in a small sitting-room. If the air in the supply chamber is fumigated with a perfume, in four or five minutes after, any one sitting at the north end of the House may detect the aromatised air, and thus be convinced of the supply of air, even

oxygen, rises over the chimney, and, being prevented from escaping at the top, passes between the inner and outer glasses, through the small tubes into the larger one, and thence makes its exit; and thus, though the gas is burning brightly, there is no absorption of fresh air from the apartment to supply the flame. These fittings were executed, under Mr. Barry's direction, by Mr. James Faraday, of Wardour-street.

In one of our former numbers, we alluded to the Lighting being on Faraday's principle, and mentioned the Ventilation as being entrusted to him also; but we cannot pass over this subject without correcting that statement, as the whole of the Ventilating arrangements are entirely due to the master mind of the great architect, Mr. Barry, to whom the country is indebted for that which has been so long desired and so often aimed at for many years, that is, a *perfect* system of Ventilation. Although we have given but a slight sketch of the Warming and Ventilating principles, we hope our readers will thoroughly understand our description, and acknowledge the plans are very simple, but ingenious in the extreme; and, therefore, more worthy of admiration.

CANDELABRUM IN THE NEW HOUSE OF LORDS.

This exquisite specimen of modern skill in the art of brass-working, is one of two, which are placed on either side, but a little in advance of the Throne, in the House of Lords.

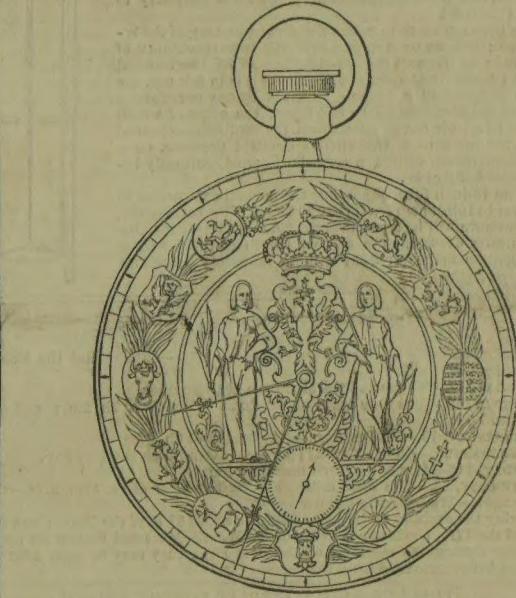
It is of octangular form, and may be divided, for greater clearness in description, into three parts, the pedestal, shaft, and branches. From a plinth of Scagliola in imitation of Sienna marble, moulded and embattled, rises the pedestal, which has, at its corners, pillars, unornamented, but having deep bases and capitals, elegantly moulded. The sides of the pedestal are filled with the richest pierced tracery, consisting of sexagons, with quatrefoil mouldings, and quatrefoils alternately, all of the most delicate workmanship. On the tops of the pillars are winged lions, couchant, which support the shaft; and this, like the pedestal, is filled with open-worked sexagons and quatrefoils, and has slender twisted fillets running up the angles.

From an enriched coronal at the top of the shaft, eight flying buttresses, richly traceried and crowned with crocketed pinnacles, take their spring; and from them a double row of branches for lights sweep in graceful convolutions. The lower row of branches have oak leaves twined round them, and divide into two, at a little distance from their springing, so as to hold sixteen coronals of elaborate workmanship, within which are sockets for wax lights. The upper tier are of the same pattern as the lower, but do not divide, so that there are but eight lights therein. A coronal for a single light terminates the whole. It is absolutely impossible to describe the beauty of these elaborate specimens of art: so minute and so perfect are their decorations, that they are truly magnificent, and, from their great height, most imposing. To the topmost coronal they are about seventeen feet high, of which the pedestal is nearly five feet, so that some idea of their *proportions* may be inferred from this statement; and of their general character and design, our Illustration, which has been most carefully drawn and engraved, affords a correct representation.

We are happy to hear that the Commissioners of Fine Arts for the Decoration of the New Palace at Westminster, have appointed Mr. John Thomas, of Lambeth, to execute two figures of the series of Magna Charta Barons, to be placed in the niches between the windows of the New House of Peers. Mr. Thomas is the artist who has displayed so much talent in the sculptural decorations of the House, and with which he has been entrusted by Mr. Barry since its commencement.

SUPERB GOLD WATCH PRESENTED TO LORD DUDLEY COUTTS STUART, BY THE POLES.

On Wednesday, a deputation composed of Captain Jablonski, President; Chevalier Wierciński, Mr. Jackowski, Mr. Kuczyński, Mr. Terlecki, members of the Committee of the Polish Emigrants in Great Britain and Ireland, accompanied by several of their countrymen, waited upon Lord Dudley Stuart, in St. James's street, to present to his Lordship a Gold Watch, as a token of gratitude on the part of the whole Polish emigration, for the services rendered by his Lordship to the cause of their country.



WATCH PRESENTED TO LORD DUDLEY COUTTS STUART, BY THE POLES

As we give below a detailed description of the Watch, we shall only observe, that besides most perfect machinery, it possesses a certain new invention, which has gained for its originator, (Mr. Patek) high reputation on the Continent; and that it took more than eighteen months to finish it completely. But, the great merit of this tasteful gift lies in the knowledge of its being offered to his Lordship by the Polish emigrants dispersed all over Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, many of whom were unable to subscribe more than one penny towards it.

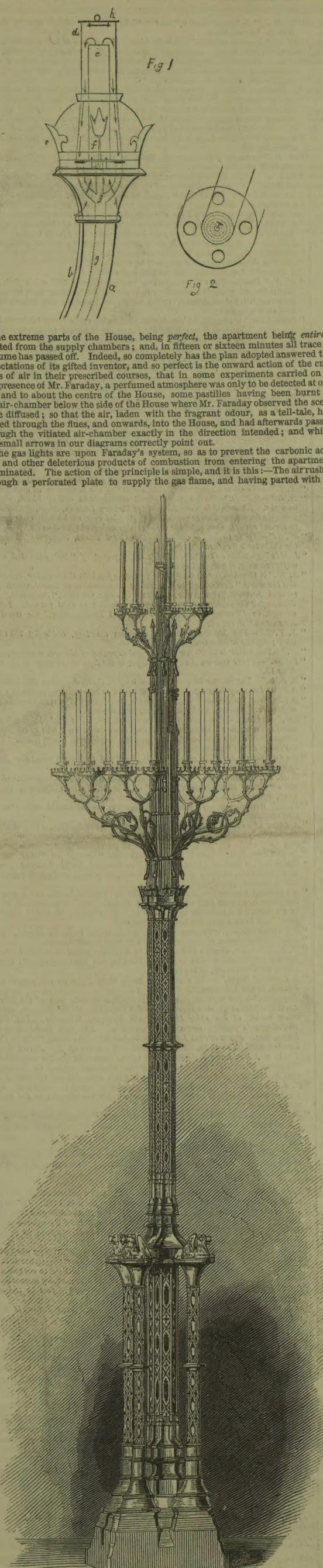
It required about two years to raise a sufficient sum for the purpose, and the choice of a Watch for a present of this kind was fixed upon, as an emblem of that union and harmony which prevail among the Poles of every political opinion with regard to this well-deserved tribute of their grateful feelings, and also as indicative of the time of retributive justice which must ultimately restore to Poland her sacred rights of freedom and independence, in the defence of which his Lordship has exhibited to the world so transcendent and so abiding an example.

Several distinguished persons, among whom were Lady Frances Sandon, the Hon. Miss Ryder, Mrs. John Abel Smith, the Marquis of Northampton, Lord Beaumont, &c., were present on the occasion of the presentation.

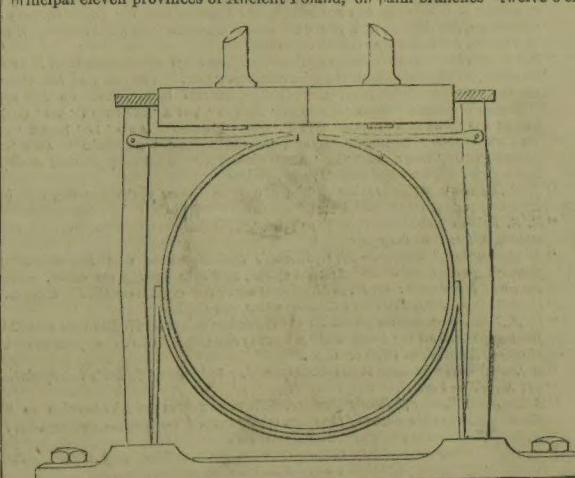
DESCRIPTION OF THE WATCH.

This Watch, manufactured by Messrs. Patek and Co., Poles established at Geneva, is truly a master-piece of art. It has a chronometer escapement, with compensation balance and isochronal spiral spring; its principal parts are garnished with rubies. It is wound up and the hands can be set without any key, according to a very ingenious contrivance, as simple as it is convenient, invented by the above-named manufacturers. It is a Repeater: it marks the seconds, and on its pendant is constructed a small mariner's compass.

The Dial represents, in basso-relievo, the last seal of Independent Poland, exquisitely engraved. In the centre is the White Eagle, of which the red escutcheon is supported by two upright figures, the emblems of Justice and Peace: around, instead of ciphers indicating the hours, are the arms of the principal eleven provinces of Ancient Poland, on palm branches—twelve o'clock



CANDELABRUM IN THE NEW HOUSE OF LORDS



CLARKE AND VARLEY'S ATMOSPHERIC RAILWAY TUBE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

state the quantity," as they say in the House of Commons; so he takes only half the above amount as his basis, and fixes it at "4,200,000 metrical quintals." Then comes the great question, what will be the value of these resuscitated wrappings?—It is thus answered:

The cloth which encloses the mummies is all of the finest linen; and everybody knows how superior the paper manufactured from yarn is to that made from other substances. The rags that serve for the preparation of paper are now sold in France at the rate of 200 piasters (50/-) per metrical quintal. Subtracting from this sum 100 piasters for expenses, or rather more, to keep always below an impossible minimum, there will nevertheless remain a total of 420,000,000 piasters, or 105,000,000/-, or 21,000,000 dollars (about £4,000,000 sterling). Only admitting the half of this result, viz., 10,500,000 dollars, every one will agree that this industrial resource, reduced to its very lowest proportions, would nevertheless yield an immense profit to the Government of his Highness the Pacha of Egypt.

His Highness has only to dig and be rich. The Pharaohs will enter their palaces again in the shape of piasters; and the forty centuries that look down from the top of the Pyramids will see a stranger transformation than any they have beheld during their period of observation. It is not the first time that mummies have been traded in; but of old they furnished a popular medicine, bought with more than its weight in gold: from thence to the price of the rag dealer is a "heavy declension." Sir Thomas Browne thought even the former use of the dead a profanation, and thus deplores it:—"The Egyptian mummies, which Cambyses or time hath spared, avarice now consumeth. Mummy is become merchandise, Mizriam cures wounds, and Pharaoh is sold for balsams." He denounces this "turning old heroes into unworthy potions. Shall Egypt lend out her ancients unto chirurgeons and apothecaries, and Cheops and Psammiticus be weighed unto us for drugs? Shall we eat of Charnes and Amosis in electuaries and pills, and be cured by cannibal mixtures? Surely such diet is dismal vampirism!"

Luckily science can disguise the nature of the raw material of its fabric; and no one, in the crisp bank-note or the perfumed *billet doux*, will suspect the presence of the shroud of some dusky Egyptian, who

Was dead and buried and embalmed
Ere Romulus and Remus had been suckled.

ON THE WEATHER, DURING THE QUARTER ENDING MARCH 31, 1847.

The Report of the Registrar-General for the past quarter contains the results of Meteorological Observations, made in many different places in England. These have been all similarly reduced by Mr. Glaisher, who has also deduced the hydrometrical states of the air for all places where the necessary observations have been made, by the use of his hydrometrical tables. The results of each subject of investigation are thus rendered strictly comparable with each other. The mean temperatures for each month, for all places not situated in the counties of Cornwall and Devonshire, were found to be nearly identical with that at Greenwich; but those few places situated in these counties were found to be very much higher; and it also appears that the degree of humidity in these counties was less than in any other part of England.

The following are Remarks on the Weather of the Quarter, by James Glaisher, Esq., of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, abbreviated from the Registrar-General's Report:—

The mean temperature of Greenwich was $37^{\circ} 4'$, which is $6^{\circ} 3'$ below that of the corresponding quarter of 1846; 2° above that of 1845; $1^{\circ} 6'$ below that of 1844; and $1^{\circ} 6'$ below that of the quarter upon the average of twenty-five years. A remarkable belt or zone of cold is shown to have taken place between Feb. 8th and 14th, whose southern and northern limits appear to have passed near the parallels of latitude of $50^{\circ} 45'$ and 52° respectively; and from observations exhibited in the Report, the cold appears to have extended across the country between the above-mentioned parallels, and to have been very uniform within the zone. It was most severely felt at Uckfield, in Sussex, whose latitude is $50^{\circ} 59'$.

The hydrometrical state of the air has been remarkable during the whole quarter, on account of its extreme dryness, and this appears to have been general over the whole country. The air appears to have been generally in a calm state for the season; its horizontal movement having been about 200 miles a week less than usual.

Vegetation has been subjected to frequent low temperatures. The reading of a thermometer placed on grass, read less than 32° on 70 nights during the quarter; and during the days, in consequence of the dry state of the atmosphere, the evaporation of moisture from vegetation has been great, and thus it has been subjected to a temperature below that of the season, both night and day; consequently, the sap has scarcely risen in trees, and vegetation is very backward.

Upon the whole the weather in this quarter has been more severe and painful to the senses than in either of the corresponding quarters in the three preceding years, and much more so than has been indicated by the thermometers, in consequence of the dryness of the air causing the moisture from the skin to evaporate quickly, and thus subjecting it to the temperature of evaporation, which, throughout this quarter, has been much below that of the air.

The winter of 1846-7 may be considered to have commenced on November 27th, 1846, and to have continued fully to the end of this quarter.

THE WEATHER.

The weather during the past week has been much finer and warmer than it has been for a long time past, and since Sunday, vegetation has progressed rapidly. Friday was a fine day generally, with occasional thin rain falling, and wind blowing from the S.; its average temperature was $53^{\circ} 2'$; this day was followed by a warm and cloudy night, during which the thermometer reading did not descend below 50° . Saturday, a thin rain was falling early in the morning; the afternoon was stormy, with frequent squalls of rain and wind; the direction of the latter was from the S.; the average temperature of the day was 52° . Sunday was a very fine day, with the wind principally from the W.; its average temperature was $54^{\circ} 5'$, being about that of the season. Monday was a very fine warm day, with the wind from the W.; its average temperature was 52° , being about 5° above that of the season. Tuesday was also a fine day; a thin rain was falling early in the morning, the wind was from the S.; the average temperature of the day was 58° . Wednesday was a fine growing day, the sky was principally cloudy, a gentle rain was falling during a part of the morning; the average temperature of the day was 54° . Thursday was a fine day, the wind from S.W.; large white cumuli were scattered about the sky, which was generally of a deep blue colour; the average temperature of the day was 55° , and that of the week was 55° , being about that of the season.

The extreme thermometrical readings each day were—
Friday May 7, the highest during the day was 65° deg., and the lowest was 41 deg.
Saturday, May 8 59 45
Sunday, May 9 63 43
Monday, May 10 72 47
Tuesday, May 11 66 50
Wednesday, May 12 65 42
Thursday, May 13 66 45

Blackheath, Friday, May 14, 1847.

J. G.

COURT AND HAUT TON.

MOVEMENTS OF THE COURT.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert, who went to Osborne House, Isle of Wight, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal, yesterday week, remained there till Tuesday.

On Sunday morning the Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal took walking and riding exercise on the sea-beach. Her Majesty and Prince Albert, and the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, attended divine service in Whippingham Church on that day.

The Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal, and the Prince of Leinster, returned to Buckingham Palace at ten minutes to six o'clock on Tuesday afternoon. The august party left Osborne at two o'clock in the afternoon, crossed in the *Fairy* to Gosport, travelled to town by a special train on the South Western Railway, and proceeded from the terminus at Nine Elms, in three carriages and four, escorted by a party of Lancers.

The Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal, honoured the floral exhibition of the Royal Botanic Society with a visit on Wednesday morning. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent visited her Majesty at Buckingham Palace. The Queen took an airing in a carriage in the afternoon, attended by the Hon. Misses Stanley and Dawson. His Royal Highness Prince Albert rode out on horseback at the same time.

THE QUEEN DOWAGER AND THE DUCHESS OF KENT.—Her Majesty the Queen Dowager and her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent attended Divine Service last Sunday, in the Chapel Royal, St. James's. The prayers were read by the Rev. T. Helmore, and the lessons by the Rev. J. V. Povah. The sermon was preached by the Rev. T. Mills. The anthem was, "Wherewithal shall a young man?" Mr. Kryett presided at the organ.

ENTERTAINMENT AT SIR ROBERT PEEL'S.—The Right Hon. Sir Robert and Lady Peel entertained his Excellency Count Kielmansege, his Excellency Senor Istariz, the Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch, the Earl and Countess of St. Germans, and Lady Louisa Eliot, the Earl Bathurst, the Earl and Countess of Morton, and Lady Ellen Douglas, Viscount Somerton, Lord Forester, Lady Harriet Baring, Mr. Tomline, and a distinguished circle to dinner on Wednesday evening, in Whitehall-gardens.

RETURN OF LORD AND LADY HOWARD DE WALDEN.—Lord and Lady Howard de Walden have arrived in town from Southampton, where they disembarked, after visiting his Lordship's large landed property in the West Indies. His Lordship does not proceed to Brussels to enter on his diplomatic duties before the end of the ensuing month.

THE DUCHESS OF ARGYLL.—The Duchess Dowager of Argyll has been suffering from severe indisposition.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.—The Right Hon. Sir George Grey, her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, has issued invitations for a grand dinner, in honour of the Queen's Birthday, on Thursday, the 27th of May, at the Claremont Hotel. The company will include the whole of the Queen's Judges, the Lord Mayor, and the principal civic functionaries. The guests will appear in full dress. The Chancellor of the Exchequer will give a full dress dinner to a numerous party on the same day, in celebration of her Majesty's Birthday, at his official residence in Downing-street. The Duke of Norfolk, Viscount Palmerston, and other members of the Ministry, have also arranged to give entertainments in celebration of the same event.

APPROACHING MARRIAGES AMONG THE ARISTOCRACY.—The marriage of the Earl of Portarlington and Lady Alexandrina Vane, second daughter of the Marquess and Marchioness of Londonderry, is expected to be solemnised at the close of this month, but the precise day is not determined on. The preliminaries are arranged for the marriage of Lord Charles Fitzroy, second son of the Duke and Duchess of Grafton, and Miss Balfour, daughter of Lady Eleanor Balfour, and sister of Mr. James M. Balfour, M.P. The 8th of the ensuing month has been appointed for the nuptials.

LADY BROUGHAM'S ASSEMBLY.—Lady Brougham entertained at dinner, on Monday evening, at their mansion in Grafton-street, the Earl and Countess of Tankerville, the Countess of Clarendon, Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston, Viscount and Viscountess Jocelyn, Lord Glenelg, Sir Alexander and Lady Malet, Mr. and Lady Caroline Maxse, and Mrs. Howard. Her Ladyship subsequently had an evening party, which was numerously and fashionably attended.

COUNTRY NEWS.

RIOTS IN STAFFORDSHIRE.

For some days past great dissatisfaction has been evinced by the labourers employed upon the South Staffordshire Railway, and the whole of them, numbering several hundreds, have struck work. In consequence of this step the contractors called in the aid of a number of Irishmen, who, it is alleged, worked under the prices paid to those who had "turned out."

On Monday night, the men who had left work in the neighbourhood of Walsall, visited the pits, and collecting together a formidable body of miners armed themselves with bludgeons, many of which were torn up from hedges and trees on the road-sides, and proceeded to Walsall, where the Irish labourers are located. They commenced a ferocious attack upon the windows and doors of the Irishmen's houses, and before the inmates became aware of the object of their assailants some of them were most unmercifully beaten. The Irish party gathered a strong force, and were about to retaliate upon the "turn-outs," but it had not been for the interference of the magistrates, attended by the police, serious, if not fatal, consequences must have followed. The police saluted upon the rioters, and succeeded in apprehending four of the ringleaders. The rioters were brought up before the magistrates, on Tuesday, and committed for trial at the sessions. It is feared that the rioting may be renewed.

The outrage in Walsall has been followed by similar outbreaks of popular violence in the mining district.

Near Wolverhampton about 1000 miners and others met on Tuesday, and drove every Irishman from his employment. If they hesitated for a moment they were attacked with sticks and assailed with volleys of stones. Some of the men have been severely hurt; one poor fellow was so stunned by a blow he received that it was feared death would ensue, but he is now recovering. The police, to the number of about fifty men, under the direction of Colonel Hogg, deputy chief-constable, endeavoured to persuade the mob to disperse, and in some cases succeeded; but the assault on the poor Irishmen were continued by the majority of the rioters; and many of them had difficulty in escaping with their lives. Many women were conspicuous amongst the crowds, urging on the mob, and encouraging them in their violence.

On Wednesday, immense crowds of miners and others, to the number of between 1000 and 2000, again met on the Bilton and Willenhall-road. They attacked numerous of the Irish labourers, but the presence of the police averted them from further violence.

At Wednesbury, another body of miners, numbering about 1500, perpetrated similar outrages. One man had his eye knocked out, several had their skulls nearly fractured, many were beaten till scarcely able to stand, and it was with difficulty some of them escaped with their lives. Two of the ringleaders have been apprehended by the police.

The whole of this populous district is in the most unsettled and excited state, and the contagion seems spreading, for accounts have been received of similar proceedings at Stafford and in the Potteries.

The causes of this outbreak are somewhat deeper than at first appeared. The miners work only about three days a week, refusing to do more; and the coal and iron-masters, being thereby subjected to great loss and annoyance, have employed many Irishmen, who do not ask for holidays, and do the work equally well. This, we believe, is the real cause. The result of these tumults will, if persisted in, have a most disastrous effect on the iron trade, which is at the present moment in a very favourable condition.

REPRESENTATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.—There will be a contest for the representation of this University at the approaching general election, Mr. Estcourt having intimated his intention of retiring from Parliament. The names of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone and Sir W. Heathcote are spoken of as candidates.

OPENING OF THE LOWESTOFT AND REEDHAM RAILWAY.—On Monday week this railway was opened for goods traffic. A train passed through on the morning of that day, and another came from Lowestoft in the evening; goods trains will run, in the same manner, for about a fortnight, till this railway is opened for passengers. Packets of first-rate construction, now finishing in London, will be ready in August; and with them it is intended to keep up a constant communication between Rotterdam, Hamburg, and other Continental ports, and Lowestoft. These packets, and vessels from all parts of the north of Europe, will deliver their cargoes at Lowestoft, where they will be readily placed on the railway and conveyed to all parts of England, by means of the Norfolk, the Ely and Peterborough, and other lines. From the north of England to the north of Europe, goods will be sent by the same means of transit.

THE PRICE OF CORN AT COLCHESTER.—The advance of the price of wheat in Colchester market within the past week is 18s. per quarter, and the price has become truly alarming. The Home Secretary has issued orders to the inspectors of corn returns throughout the kingdom, to ascertain as nearly as possible the quantity of wheat now in the hands of the farmers generally; and the result of the inspector's inquiry at Colchester market on Saturday was, that very little more than one-third of the quantity is now in hand, compared with the quantity at this period of last year.

STATE OF TRADE IN BIRMINGHAM.—It is feared that, in a few days, short time, in some of the manufactories in Birmingham, will commence. The money pressure is being severely felt, and the universal opinion is that something must be done, and done immediately, to ease discounts, or another week or two will bring matters to a serious crisis. As for the share market, it is all but suspended.

DISTURBANCES IN NOTTINGHAM.—The stagnation in trade and the high price of provisions have induced a disturbed state of public feeling which has not been equalled for many years past. At half-past four in the afternoon of Monday a large concourse, called together by the Chartists, assembled in the market-place, to listen to addresses commenting upon the great distress the working classes are suffering under. On the meeting separating, a number of individuals attached themselves to a wagon which had served as a platform, and, followed by a large mob, drew the vehicle through the streets, entering every baker's shop, provision warehouse, and respectable tradesman's dwelling, soliciting bread, food, and money. Three men were in the wagon, who, as loaves of bread were given, deposited them in the wagon, till it was more than half filled. This visitation very much terrified the shopkeepers and the inhabitants generally. The men did not enforce, but asked for bread; consequently the police did not interfere, but the magistrates assembled at the police-office, and took precautionary steps in case of any violation of the public peace. Some fears were entertained of an outbreak late in the evening, but happily none occurred.

Poisoning in SUFFOLK.—The family of Mr. Rouse, of Bury, consisting of the man, his wife, and four children, were nearly poisoned on Saturday last, after eating some yeast dumplings. Mr. Image, surgeon, having been called in, administered the necessary antidotes, and took possession of the dumplings, the bread from which they were taken, and the flour remaining in the house, for the purpose of analysis. On Monday evening, the eldest daughter, about twenty-one years of age, was taken into custody, in consequence of some letters having been found, indicating a wretched state of mind at an act of dishonesty; and on Tuesday morning she underwent a private examination before Dr. Probert and H. Le Grice, Esq., and was remanded. The presence of arsenic in the dumplings and bread was ascertained by Mr. Image, but none was found in the flour. It appeared that the unhappy girl had taken a larger quantity than any other of the family, but all are now recovering from its effect.

THE COMMAND IN THE TAGUS.—Lord Palmerston has appointed Admiral Sir Charles Napier to the naval command on this station.

DEATH OF MAJOR-GENERAL THOS. FYERS, ROYAL ENGINEERS.—On Tuesday, Major General T. Fyres, of the Royal Engineers, expired at his residence in Woolwich. The deceased officer had just completed forty-seven years of active service, having entered the corps as second lieutenant, on the 2nd of May, 1800.

THE MURDER OF THREE CHILDREN BY THEIR MOTHER.—We last week gave an account of the murder of three children by their mother, near Carmarthen. An inquest has since been held on the bodies, and the mother has been taken into custody. On her way to Llanbythyn, she related the manner in which she hanged the children. She said she hanged the two eldest first, and the infant afterwards. It was better for them to suffer at once, than suffer from starvation. Several witnesses spoke of the state of mind of the unfortunate woman, which for a length of time was that of a person insane. The Jury returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder" against Mary Hughes, who was committed for trial at the Summer Assizes.

STATE OF THE CROPS IN IRELAND.—The reports of the state of the crops in Ireland are exceedingly cheerful. From all quarters—wretched Mayo and other districts in the west and south excepted—the crops appear in a flourishing condition, and a far greater quantity of land is under cultivation than ever was seen before in Ireland. Even in those afflicted districts alluded to, great exertions are made by the local gentry and the better classes; but the peasantry are so completely stricken down in body and mind by their sufferings that little hope is entertained of their being able to raise food enough for their own consumption during the next winter.

POSTSCRIPT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

POOR BELIEF (IRELAND) BILL.

The Marquis of Lansdowne, in moving that the bill be received, said it was his intention to propose to their Lordships to strike out of the bill all those amendments which had been agreed to, the object of which was to fix a limit to the bill.

The question was then put that the House do disagree with the amendment providing that the bill should be of a temporary character. Upon this amendment a division took place, and, on a division, the proposal of the Government was carried by 54 to 42, so that Lord Montague's amendment, limiting the duration of the bill, was abrogated.

An amendment of Earl Clancharly, limiting the right of able-bodied labourers to out-door relief, was negatived without a division.

The report on the bill was then received, and the House adjourned, at half-past ten o'clock, till Monday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

THIRD READINGS OF RAILWAY BILLS.

The following bills were read a third time and passed:—The Boston, Stamford, and Birmingham Railway (Peterborough and Thorneby Line) Bill; the Chard Canal and Railway (Extension and Amalgamation) Bill; the Glasgow, Paisley, Kilmarnock, and Ayr Railway (No. 4) Bill; the Herne Bay and Canterbury Junction Railway Bill; the Liskeard and Caradon Railway Bill; the Southampton and Dorchester Railway (New Forest Division and Branches) Bill; the South Wales Railway Bill; the Vale of Neath Railway Bill; the Wexford and Valencia Railway (Killarney to Valencia) Bill; the Wilts, Somerset, and Weymouth Railway (No. 1

T H E L O N D O N S E A S O N .

[The annexed Illustrations are so many *Tableaux* from High Life during the present Carnival time of Fashion, in every-day parlance "the London Season." As the most graceful accompaniment to these scenes of artistic vraisemblance, we present our readers with a charming *Nouvellette*, for which we are indebted to the accomplished pen of a lady, highly distinguished in a species of writing characteristic of our own times—the novel of fashionable life.—Ed.]

THE ORPHAN HEIRESS.

BY THE BARONESS DE CALABRELLA.

The Lady Constance Neville had to mourn the death of both her parents at an early age. Her father, the Earl of Glendower, was an attached husband, a tender and devoted father; but, in selecting his uncle, Lord Glenlyn, for his sole executor and his daughter's guardian, in the event of Lady Glendower's death—the near approach of which event her delicate health at the time of his own decease hardly left doubtful—his Lordship did not prove himself a wise one. It may be asked, who can fill a parent's place?—who, but a parent, can ever enter into the feelings of a parent? Alas! those who have had cause to examine into these depuities of parental affection will readily answer. They never really are fulfilled as the bequeathers of them hoped and contemplated.

Lord Glenlyn went down to Llantrisset Castle, to attend Lady Glendower's funeral, as he had, a few months before, done Lord Glendower's. On this, his second journey thither, he even meditated on the immense sacrifice of his own personal comforts which would arise by carrying Lady Constance and her governess back with him to London; but the sight of the child's overwhelming grief so terrified—perhaps, so astonished—him, when he hinted his kind intention, that he quickly persuaded himself that there would be no real kindness to her in removing her from a spot which seemed to her the only hallowed one on earth; and that, by leaving her there, under the care of her governess, a lady who had been selected by her mother, and reducing the present overgrown establishment, taking care that every requisite of luxury should still surround the young heiress, he should be really acting more judiciously by his ward, and far more agreeably to himself.

After carefully going through all the necessary details, in his capacity of executor, he again sought an interview with Lady Constance, who repaired to his presence with the feeling of a martyr whose last sacrifice is about to be required. Her face was void of colour; her rich chestnut curls were no longer playing round a throat of dazzling whiteness, but bound tightly round her small Grecian head, in accordance with the severity of her mourning habiliments; her faltering steps proved too plainly her excessive emotion for Lord Glenlyn, who really possessed a kind heart, and could assume a kind manner, when self was not endangered by its exercise, not to feel sorrow at her distress. Moving forward to meet her, he took her hand, which was cold, as marble, and, drawing it within his arm, half supported her to an arm-chair at the library-table.

"Dear Lady Constance," he said, "pray, don't look as if you were afraid of me. It is my hope and my wish to promote your happiness." A convulsive shudder which passed over her frame showed him how inappropriate had been the word; but he quickly added: "Will you not believe this? Try, poor child, to have confidence in me, and tell me what you wish to do."

It was in a voice choking with emotion that Lady Constance faltered out—"To stay here."

Lord Glenlyn pressed her hand, and assured her, that having perceived, in their last interview, how much the idea of leaving her home had distressed her, he had from that moment abandoned the project, and only waited an avowal from her lips to conclude the arrangements incident to her residence at Llantrisset.



THE DEBUTANTE.—THE BOUDOIR.

He could not, while thus speaking, refrain from congratulating himself on the first expressed wish of his ward having been so much in accordance with his own—while Constance, with tears of thankfulness rolling down her pale cheeks, ventured to lift her eyes to his, as she thought that her guardian was a being less to be feared than she had imagined.

Thus a favourable impression was made on both their minds.

Mrs. Tudor, the governess selected by Lady Glendower, was all that mother could have desired, had she but lived herself to form and strengthen her child's mind, habituating it to thought and reflection on more essential subjects than the vocation of a governess usually embraces. Mrs. Tudor was a well mannered, highly educated, and, in many respects, a very superior woman, and she loved her orphan charge with affectionate—it might be said enthusiastic—devotion; for, unhappily, Mrs. Tudor's besetting sin was enthusiasm and a love of romance. The melancholy circumstances which had followed each other in quick succession since she entered the Glendower family had rather served to increase than diminish this weakness. A young and orphan heiress—an ancient castle, with its high turrets, and its embattlements—offered daily food to her love of the wonderful; and as month after month, and year after year, rolled on, without any event worthy of the romantic position in which they lived, her amazement was strongly awakened. Her dreams were filled with romantic visions of what ought to be the necessary consequence of such an abode, but the every-day circumstances of their life seemed cruelly to oppose themselves to her desired romance.

At a moment when any hope of her dreams being realised seemed to have become extinct, and just as Lady Constance had entered her seventeenth year, Mrs. Tudor was thrown into an ecstasy of delight by discovering in her early walk to the village school, of which she had consented, at Constance's request, to take the superintendence, a young man seated on a stile with a sketch-book and pencil in hand; he was evidently intent on his occupation, and did not perceive her. The incident could not be said to be an uncommon one, for the beauties of Llantrisset and its vicinity had induced many an artist to visit it. There was nothing in the dress or appearance of the person before her as he sat assiduously pursuing his sketch, that would have induced any lady less romantically disposed than Mrs. Tudor, to see in him a hero—a disguised tover—an interesting object—for whom she immediately persuaded herself she felt a warm sympathy. If her estimation was no longer to the village school; but, turning adroitly to the left, she came exactly in front of the stranger, as if she were intent on crossing the field, to which the gate offered an entrance. Immediately vaulting from his elevated seat, the gentleman raised his hat, hoped he had not detained her, and proceeded to unlatch the heavy gate. The air with which all this was done, was perfectly easy, perfectly gentlemanlike. George the Fourth himself could not have been more courteous; but it was too stately, too reserved; in fact, Mrs. Tudor could not find anything in it like romance; and, feeling somewhat overawed, she passed through the gate with a silent courtesy. She had not, however, proceeded far before she repented having made so little use of what might have turned out a golden opportunity. He was evidently a gentleman; no artist could have looked so proud; he was wonderfully handsome, too, and she turned back, and found the stranger still in possession of the gate. This time it was her turn to apologise for the disturbance she occasioned him.

"Not in the least," he said; "I am glad to have been still here to save you the pain of opening this heavy gate. A moment more, and I should have been gone, for my sketch is finished."

"Will you gratify a woman's curiosity by showing it me?"

He immediately held the sketch-book open before her; she saw at once it owned a master's touch, and



THE BALL-ROOM.

T H E L O N D O N S E A S O N .

rather in the tone of an interrogatory, said, "Surely it can only be an artist's work."

"I am flattered at your praise, Madam. I suppose I shall at last fancy myself an artist; at all events, I certainly am an amateur. The views about here are charming, and well repay a journey taken to visit them."

"Will you allow me," she rejoined, "to be your guide, and conduct you to what is supposed to be the most picturesque spot in this beautiful country?"

"Assuredly, and with many thanks; but"—he paused for an instant and then added—"excuse me, but I have heard the most beautiful view is within the gates of Llantrisset Park, and I have already sought admission at the lodge in vain."

"It is nevertheless there that I am about to conduct you," replied Mrs. Tudor, and, seeing his look of astonishment, she added, with a triumphant air, "the gates will fly open for me."

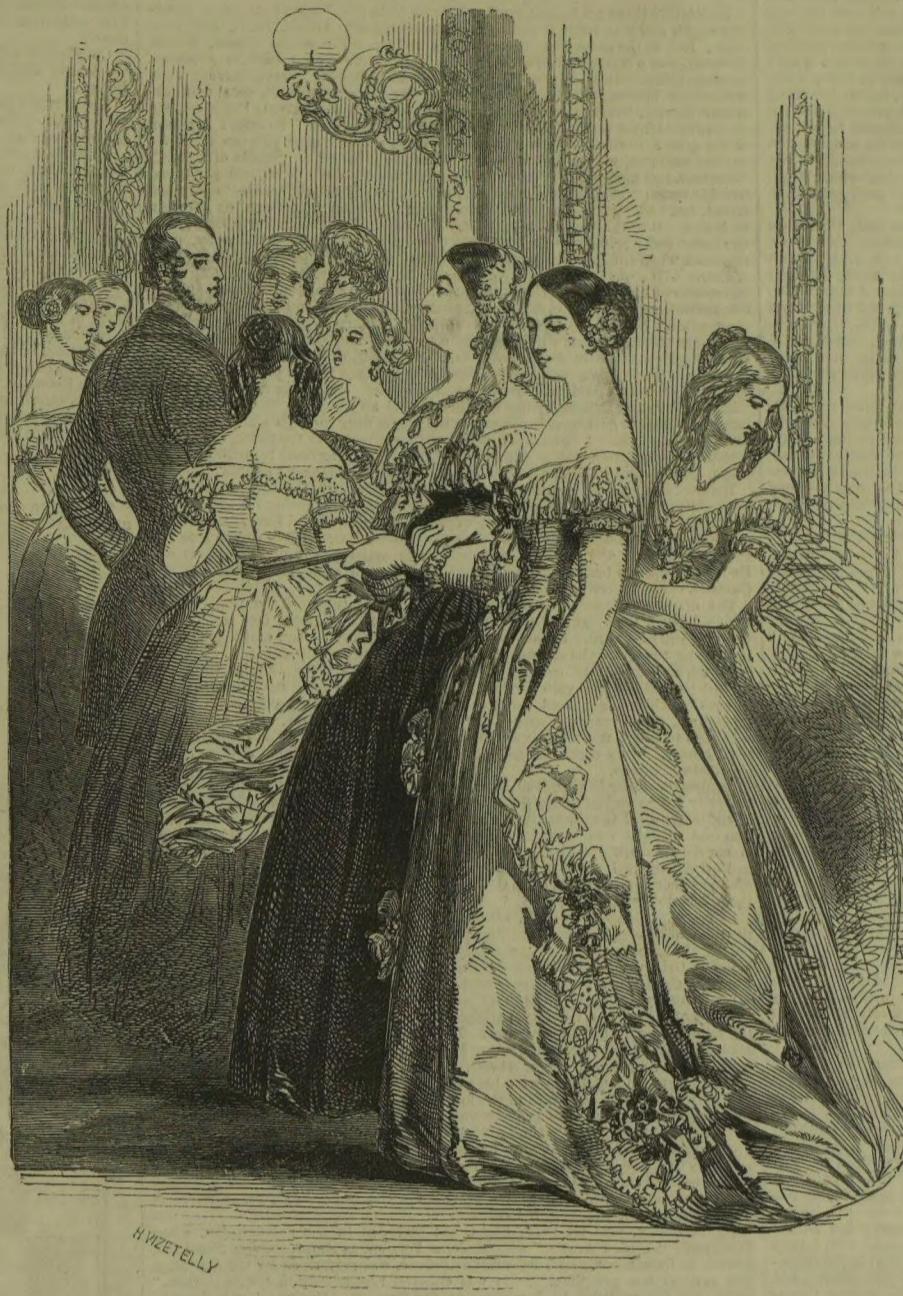
Accordingly they entered the park together, and were proceeding to the far famed site, when Constance, driving her favourite pony phaeton, came suddenly upon them. What an opportunity for Mrs. Tudor to secure the first mesh in her net of romance.

"Who shall I name to Lady Constance Neville," she enquired. The stranger, with his eyes fixed on the beautiful vision before him, said hastily, "Mr. Charles Spencer."

The introduction over, Mrs. Tudor besought a place by Constance's side, and, accompanied by Mr. Spencer, they gained the summit from whence this magnificent view unfolded itself, aided by the glories of a setting sun. The artist, or amateur as he called himself, poured forth his sense of delight and enchantment in glowing language, but Mrs. Tudor thought that she remarked his eyes as often turned to her companion's face as to the surrounding landscape. It was too late in the day to begin a sketch, but Constance, with winning grace and modesty, begged that he would return as early as he liked on the following day, and Mrs. Tudor added, "come to the Castle at two o'clock and we shall be glad to give you luncheon after your fatigues."

That night Mrs. Tudor's visions were more than ever exalted—Mr. Charles Spencer had become suddenly changed into some foreign potentate; her dear Constance was a reigning sovereign; and she herself appointed first lady of honour. There was nothing in Mr. Charles Spencer's demeanour to warrant these flights of fancy—on the following, or during the many succeeding days he spent either at Llantrisset Park, sketching for its fair mistress her favourite views, or in Llantrisset Castle, blending his rich and powerful tones with her sweet and gentle ones, in one pure stream of melody. But one thing was very visible to any common intelligence—namely, that Mr. Charles Spencer and Lady Constance Neville were all in all to each other. And where was Mrs. Tudor's forethought and oft-repeated promise to Lord Glenlyn that no one should approach his ward on terms of intimacy without his sanction? Here was a man, a stranger in the country, lodging at a village inn, with a portmanteau and his drawing implements his sole apparent possessions. Once, when started at an avowal of Constance's, she had ventured to remonstrate with her on the necessity of inquiring into his family and connections, she was answered in a tone which forbade reply. "Dear Mrs. Tudor, all inquiry would now be useless. It is too late to retreat, nor would I wrong him by appearing to harbour a doubt. He has won my whole heart: I feel, oh blessed conviction! that I possess him; and our hands are as firmly pledged as though my cousin, the Bishop of D——, had given us his benediction."

This conversation passed at night, and the following morning a letter arrived from Lord Glenlyn, saying that it was only his *avant courier* by a few hours, as he was coming to the Castle to communicate to Lady Constance, that he had hired a house for her in Berkeley-square, and had induced his sister (a widow) to come to town for the purpose of presenting her to the fashionable world. "We must be prompt in our movements,"



THE DEBUTANTE.—THE SALON.

he added, "for I have set my heart on my ward's first appearance taking place at the Duke of Bridlington's, who opens his mansion in Piccadilly with a ball this day fortnight. It will be a splendid affair; the invitations have been sent three weeks, and I have secured Lady Constance's."

Constance sat the picture of despair—her dreams of bliss seemed at an end. When Charles Spencer appeared at the usual hour, the breakfast one (for now he might be said to live at the Castle), she rushed to him with the letter, burst into tears, and besought him, as he loved her, to save her from such heartless tyranny.

"Calm yourself, my own dear Constance," he replied, "let us talk over this matter. What is there so terrible in this visit to London?—in the perspective of this gay ball, to which every one will be dying to go?"

"But you, Charles, you will not be there. Oh! do contrive some means to prevent this; I feel that my fate hangs on this horrid ball. I know but one way to avert it," she said, while a crimson blush mantled on her fine features, "but one way; and that will be the best after all, for it will end all such future arrangements of my Lord Glenlyn's; I will avow our attachment and our engagement."

"My beloved Constance," replied her lover, "you would not be so cruel; you would not rob me of the rich delight of claiming this lovely hand as my own as soon as the only obstacle (into the nature of which you have generously forbore to inquire) is set at rest, which it will be, dearest, sooner than, perhaps, either of us have anticipated. Continue to trust me, my beloved one, and never shall you repent your noble confidence."

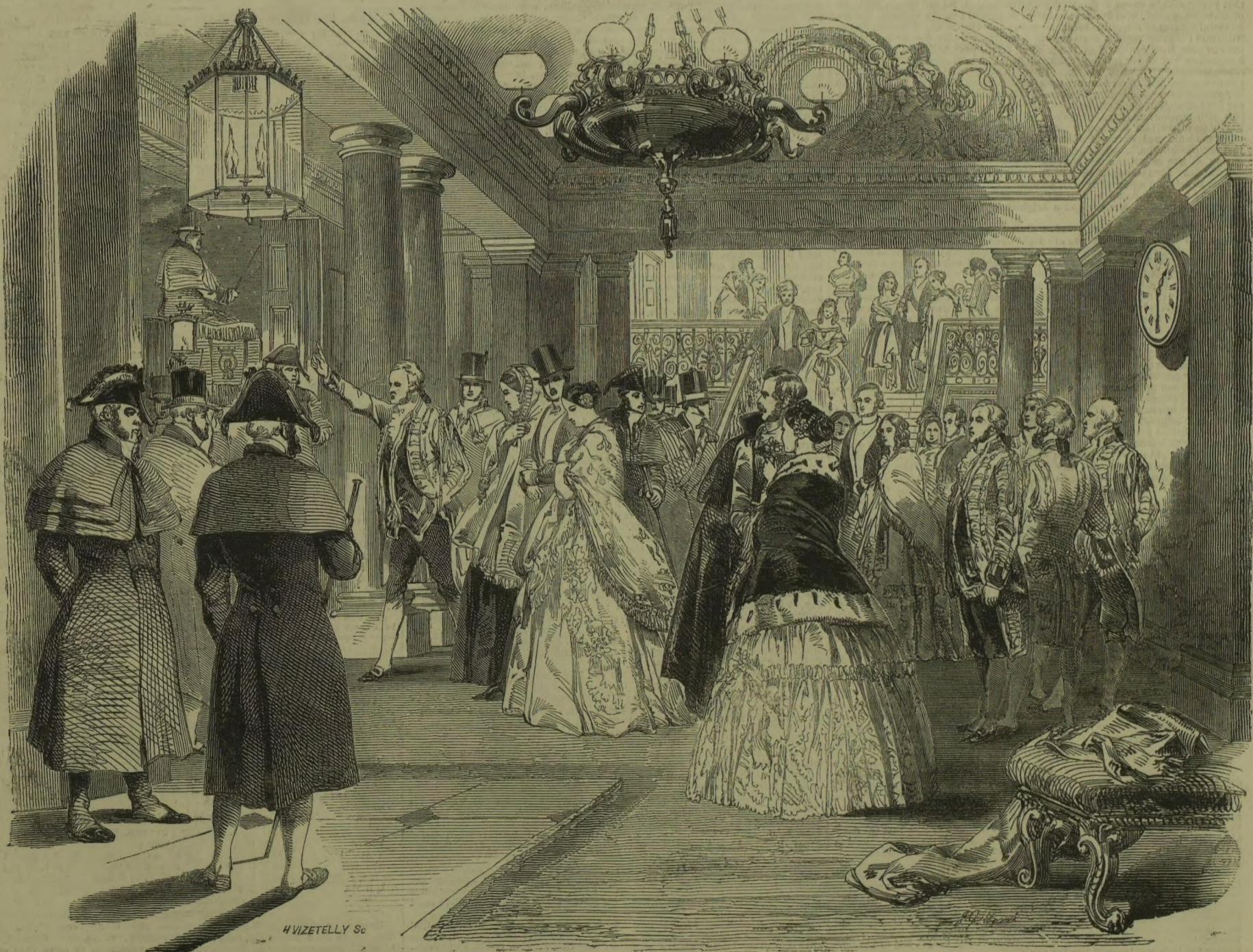
She looked in his eyes—they were beaming with love and truth; and, placing her hands in his, she said,

"Now and ever, Charles, will I trust you."

He pressed her for a moment to his heart, exclaiming "Noble, peerless Constance; may I through life prove worthy of thee. And now, dearest, I will leave the neighbourhood, before the arrival of Lord Glenlyn; for, having met him in society, I would rather he did not find me here without having asked his introduction to the fair chateau of this domain. I may write to you, may I not, Constance? I am going to London, and shall watch over you, though I will not present myself, wherever you may be, till the night of this anticipated ball, to which I too hope to obtain an invitation."

Mrs. Tudor's entrance put an end to this conversation; indeed, Constance was unable to have pursued it. He was going to leave her; they were no longer to see each other for one whole fortnight, and ages of despair seemed to stand between them. Mrs. Tudor all but raved when informed of his determination to depart; and all the folly of her conduct rose in fearful array before her. She wept, she entreated, she even commanded Mr. Spencer to explain himself to Lord Glenlyn, and not leave her to tell of his having won the Lady Constance's affection, and then refused to ask her hand of her guardian. Constance sat in silence, listening to this exordium, secretly wishing it might, by lessening his pride, change her lover's intentions; but he was firmly bent on leaving them; and, raising Lady Constance's hand to his lips, he bade her farewell. He then offered his hand to Mrs. Tudor, but her's was not put forth till, as he reached the door, he whispered, "Watch over the Lady Constance, and trust to my honour to bear you harmless;" blameless, he could not say, for his reason had from the first told him how careless she had been of the peace, nay even of the reputation of her charge.

Mrs. Tudor's exalted imagination tortured this into something bordering on chivalry, and her dreams were, on that and many successive nights, of Knights arming in her defence, Mr. Spencer himself entering the lists to do battle for her against Lord Glenlyn. Lady Constance made no objection to an immediate removal to London—had he not said he was going thither? but from the hour of her taking possession of her new abode in Berkeley-square till the day fixed for the ball, nothing seemed to interest or amuse her. Once or twice, while



THE DEPARTURE.

looking out from her balcony on the other side of the square, she thought she saw the graceful figure of Charles Spencer, but he was among a group of horsemen, and it was rather by the quickened pulsation of her heart than by her actual vision that she believed it to be him. Lord Glenlyn's sister, Mrs. Vereker, had been for some years a widow, much against her own inclination. To her it was the most difficult lesson to learn that she was growing old—her forty-five years were dreadful drags on her imagination, and the sight of any one possessed of youth and beauty a heavy tax on her nerves. Constance had remained so quietly at home, quite unmindful of her dress, which, though from its very simplicity, highly becoming to her extreme youth and freshness, that Mrs. Vereker was ill prepared for the blaze of beauty which she beheld reflected in a mirror as she entered Lady Constance's dressing-room on the eventful night of the ball, just as the anxious and excited girl was arranging the second white camellia in her gossamer bandeau, her maid standing by, with her left hand raised, as if to catch any leaf which might fall, while even her little dog, lying on a rich cushion at her feet, seemed to contemplate her with admiration.

Mrs. Vereker, covered with jewels, could not comprehend how Lady Constance could think of appearing at such a *fête* without a single ornament. But those camellias, all fresh and beautiful as they were, constituted so rich an ornament in the wearer's mind, that she would not have associated them with the brilliant jewels she inherited from her mother. She had found them in a sealed box, addressed to herself, on her toilette-table an hour before: she felt from whom they came, and asked no questions. He had not forgotten the ball; he remembered her admiration of that flower for her hair. In a few minutes she should again behold that beloved one; and Mrs. Vereker's sour look, as she sneeringly muttered, "What affectation of simplicity! In my day girls had less self-conceit!" were alike unseen and unheard.

They were late; Lord Glenlyn had wished it should be so; never had Constance imagined to herself the scene of bustle and noise she was to pass through. From the moment they turned into Piccadilly it was one unbroken line of carriages, waiting to set down, or returning from the mansion; the windows of the houses were filled with gazers, as though it had been mid-day instead of eleven o'clock at night; while well-dressed men and women were rushing nearly under the horses' feet to obtain a sight of those who were proceeding to this long-talked-of *fête*.

Mrs. Vereker, in an exceedingly ill humour, and inclined to quarrel with everything and everybody, kept exclaiming, "How like my brother! how certain are all his arrangements to be too late. Why, there are the Royal carriages returning. Who but he would have found such an hour for our arrival?"

"How long shall we be ere we arrive?" inquired Constance, whose heart was already there.

"It is impossible to guess," replied Mrs. Vereker, "but you may thank Lord Glenlyn for all this seesaw work, and the chance of your new carriage having a pole through its panel. We ought to have started an hour sooner."

Constance leant back and resigned herself to her fate. It is an easy matter to do so when the mind has a bright and happy perspective to feed upon; and in due time they found themselves at the door of the mansion, and Lord Glenlyn waiting to receive them. His first look at Constance satisfied him of the effect she must produce—for even his fastidious taste acknowledged her to be supremely beautiful. He gave her his arm to traverse the hall, lined with servants in their gorgeous state liveries; conducted her through the richly carpeted vestibule, its elaborately-carved dome, and handsome columns of verd antique marble; and ascended with her the broad sculptured staircase, lighted by a splendid candelabra; turned with her to the left, where the staircase separated into two corridors; and then transferred her arm to his sister's, and passed quickly himself by the corridor to the right, that he might perceive their entrance into the first *salon*. There he had the pleasure of seeing Royalty bestow a glance on his ward; and then, believing that his sister would be a less entertaining companion to her than himself, he joined them in the second *salon*, and, seating himself by Constance, began pointing out to her the different groups who were visible to them through a *portière* in the ball-room. A moment before, Lady Constance would not have heard him; but now, having caught sight of, and exchanged a look of love with, the object of all her thoughts—her sole temptation to that brilliant scene—she turned herself smilingly round, and listened to the accounts furnished her by this old, still *soi-disant*, beau. One young girl, with the most lovely ringlets of light and glossy hair, attracted her attention, and she ventured to inquire her name.

"That young lady, my fair Coz" ("Coz" is an appellation much used by self-supposed young uncles when addressing their grown-up nieces), "that young lady, my fair Coz, is one of our acknowledged belles. With all her beauty, and the false position her mother's vanity places her in, she is beloved by all who really know her. She is on the arm of a foreign minister, who, having been chosen by her ambitious parent to negotiate a marriage for her in which her heart took no part, had many opportunities of discovering her simple tastes and truthful feelings, and he has ever since been a faithful friend to her. Her mother, who is seated near them, has lately assumed an additional haughtiness of demeanour, from the disappointed feeling of seeing her rival in the world of fashion, marry her second daughter to her satisfaction. Nearer to us, you may observe a man with a very finely-shaped head, conducting two ladies through the crowd; that is the nobleman whose refined taste, whose wonderful talent as a sculptor and painter, and whose varied accomplishments have obtained him the name of the modern Crichton. His being a son of France, joined to his noble courtesies, serve to neutralise the jealousy his *succès* would call forth; he is quite one of ourselves. Remark that young man to whom so many eyes are directed. It is Lord B—, possessed of immense wealth, with the accessories of birth and position to boot. He is a powerful magnet of attraction to all mammas and *chaperons*. Hitherto, he has withstood the most vigilant siege to which any poor fellow has for some years been subjected. But their batteries are well armed; and unless some fancied attachment (and here the cynic smiled) should preserve him, he will find himself, from very weariness, forced to surrender at discretion. Observe that lady with her anxious gaze—looking for what she dreads to behold—her husband whispering soft nothings in another's ear. *En revanche*, behold that other's husband, pale with concentrated rage, at finding his wife at a scene where she had distinctly promised him she would not go. Look at that girl bending down to catch the whispered words of admiration of the gentleman whose arm she has just taken, while he, to whom she has by all but words pledged her faith, is gazing on her in surprise and anguish."

"But dear Lord Glenlyn," said Lady Constance—he had delicately hinted to her not to call him uncle—"by your account it would seem that all the visitors had come here to vex and tease each other instead of to enjoy a brilliant *fête*; surely there must be another and a brighter side to this moving panorama of fashion."

"Brighter," exclaimed Lord Glenlyn almost with fierceness, "what is there bright that is not false? But you are right Constance; your question seems to have invoked something brighter, for here comes the noble master of the revels." The brightest suffusion might be seen at this moment mantling on the face and neck of Lady Constance, not on account of the Duke's approach, but because coming direct towards her she beheld the object of her heart's worship—seeing him, what else could attract her attention? He came up, and bowing graciously, said to her, "Will the Lady Constance Neville honour me with her hand for the Mazourka Quadrille now forming?" Instantly her hand was within his arm, and they had moved off, before Lord Glenlyn could recover from his astonishment.

"Constance—my own, my beloved Constance—now and for ever do I claim this dear hand as my own," murmured her lover, as he led her to the ball-room, where, after presenting her to his sister, the lovely Countess of L—, they took their places, and immediately commenced the figure, a crowd standing round to admire their graceful movements.

The dance was scarcely finished, when it became *bruité* about that the lovely *débutante* in fashion's hemisphere had fainted. Lord Glenlyn, heedless of a lady's entreaties that he would have her carriage called, endeavoured to force his way to wherever Constance might be, but she seemed to have vanished from every one's view; till, in the vestibule, into which the company were rapidly descending from the grand staircase, he saw her and Mrs. Vereker on either arm of the Duke. His Grace had snatched up a hat, and been himself a considerable distance to look for Lady Constance's carriage, which had not been ordered to come up till two o'clock, and the clock in the hall only then marked half-past one. His Grace had apparently just returned, and was in the act of assuring Constance that he would convey her safely to her carriage; as a preliminary to which, he ordered his hall-porter to send a policeman to prevent a single carriage in the line from moving till he returned: even the Royal carriage, which stood waiting under the temporary portico, was ordered to remain stationary.

The *soirée* was over—the guests seemed aware that something more than usual had occurred at its close. It furnished matter for the next day's gossip at the Clubs, and by the Serpentine. At Almack's, on the following evening, it was again revived, and much wonder expressed that Lady Constance Neville, whose vouchers had been sent for, did not appear; but, within a week, her absence from that, and every succeeding party was explained by an announcement in the *Morning Post*, that the nuptials of the Duke of Bridlington and Lady Constance Neville would be solemnised early in the ensuing month.

Did Mrs. Tudor plume herself on this solution to her romantic dreams? Lord Glenlyn's caustic remark that, though Mr. Charles Spencer was really the Duke of Bridlington, and the connection all he could desire for his ward, Mr. Charles Spencer might have been a strolling player for aught she knew, and have brought disgrace on her charge, prevented any violent display of her exultation. Lord Glenlyn was right—essentially right; but, also, Mrs. Tudor was a woman: and, for some reason best known to himself, and carefully concealed from the world, his Lordship never spared one of her sex whom he had the power to censure.

MUSIC.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

Donizetti's three act lyrical drama, "Maria di Rohan," was produced on Saturday night, and was a signal triumph for the composer, Albini, Salvi, and Ronconi; but, at the same time, the complete failure of the *prima donna*, Mme. Ronconi, was a terrible drawback on what would have been otherwise a perfect representation. It is one of Donizetti's most powerful operas, having been written for Vienna, in 1843, expressly to display Signor Ronconi's vocal and histrionic powers, which, in that critical capital, and, subsequently, in Paris, created an unprecedented sensation, as, indeed, did his last act here. To afford a notion of the drama, thus eliciting such histrionic genius, and electrifying an audience beyond example, we will briefly state that, at the third act of "Maria di Rohan," Chevreuse, her husband, has fought a duel, and killed Gondi, who had slandered her fair fame; the latter had been challenged by Chalais, Chevreuse's devoted friend, but had been prevented from attending the meeting through the affection of Maria. It should be explained that Chalais and Maria were early lovers, but the latter was forced by her mother into a secret marriage with Chevreuse, only disclosed when the mortal enemy of the latter, Cardinal Richelieu, the Minister of Louis XIII., was in temporary disgrace. Thus, in the third act, Chevreuse has rendered important services to Chalais, has fought a duel for his honour, and has saved him from the Cardinal's persecution. Let it be imagined, then, that the confiding husband learns, through Richelieu's return to power, that Chalais is devotedly attached to his wife; that, by a series of circumstances, Chevreuse presumes that she is guilty of infidelity, which, however, is not the case; and that this fearful intelligence comes upon him at the moment he has just procured the escape of Chalais. And then comes the *denouement*. After the first impulse to slay Maria, he ascertains, by her emotion at the striking of a clock, that she is expecting Chalais; he then drags her to the secret door through which the latter will enter, and, after a short delay, when the lover comes in the room, he thrusts a pistol into his hand, and a fatal duel takes place; Chevreuse returning on the stage, after shooting Chalais, to fall into the hands of Richelieu's guards.

Ronconi's singing and acting throughout the whole of this exciting scene, from the moment he peruses the letter of Chalais to Maria, avowing his love, to the final accomplishment of his revenge, were replete with fearful force, and of such a nature that even the members of the orchestra were irresistibly drawn into the excited feelings of the audience, and hailed the artist with prolonged cheering. He was encoraged in both movements of his scenes; and, with Salvi (who was the Chalais), called before the curtain amidst a perfect *furore*.

The opera has been splendidly mounted; the costume of the Louis Treize period having been faithfully adhered to. Salvi's handsome face and figure looked quite a picture. He has an elegant air in the first act, and a prayer of surpassing beauty in the second, the latter being rapturously encored, owing to the taste, feeling, and refinement displayed by this great tenor. Albini, in Gondi, has the part of a young vain coxcomb, and has two charming cavatinas to sing, in both of which she gained the most fervent demands for repetition. At the second act, Gondi ceases to appear. One astonishing cadenza, in which Albini ascended to B flat, was warmly applauded. It was in the cavatina, "Son leggero nell'amore," in six-eight time, which shows off her rich volume of voice to the greatest advantage.

Donizetti's music is admirable, rising as it does with the dramatic situations in intensity; the two last acts are full of beauties. The orchestration is well contrived to show off the great attributes of Costa's magnificent band. It is a pity that the mistake was committed of assigning Maria di Rohan to an inefficient *prima donna*. Madame Ronconi has abilities, undoubtedly, and she is handsome, and dresses exquisitely, but where there are a Grisi and a Persiani, she ought not to appear. It appears that Grisi has played the part with great success in Paris with Ronconi.

Since the above was penned, a letter from Madame Ronconi has appeared in the morning papers, stating that the character of Maria di Rohan was offered to her by Madame Grisi in Paris, and only accepted with the firm conviction that Madame Grisi would not undertake it; and, at the urgent request of Madame Ronconi, Grisi will perform Maria on the repetition of the opera.

On Tuesday evening, her Majesty and the Prince Consort, accompanied by Prince Leiningen, and her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge, honoured the new theatre with their presence. The opera was Bellini's "Sonnambula;" Madame Persiani being the Adina, Mlle. Corbari Lisa, Mario Elvino, Tamburini the Count, and Polonini Alessio. At the early part of the performance, Madame Persiani and Mario were both out of voice, and, indeed, printed apologies had been distributed on behalf of the former; but, as they warmed in their parts, their organs recovered their pristine charms, and the enthusiasm was immense for the air of Mario in the second act, and the bravura finale of Madame Persiani. The unparalleled *tours de force* of the latter were characterised by their novelty and temerity, and never did she succeed more brilliantly. She was called before the curtain with the other artists, amidst a hurricane of applause and a shower of bouquets, one of which, from the Royal box, must have been a great source of gratification to the highly gifted vocalist.

On Thursday, was an extra night, not included in the subscription, when Donizetti's "Elisir d'Amore," with Madame Persiani as Adina, Salvi as Nemorino, Rovere as Dulcamara, and Tamburini as Belcore, was performed for the first time. The success was complete. Salvi was encored rapturously in "Una Furtiva," deliciously accompanied by Baumann on the Bassoon. Madame Persiani alternately charmed and electrified the house by her *naiveté* and wondrous execution. The Quack Doctor of Rovere was full of humour. It was quite an original conception, but was carried out with irresistible drollery, convulsing the audience with laughter. Rovere is also an excellent singer, and in the duos with Salvi and Madame Persiani was much applauded. Tamburini's *Sergeant Belcore* is one of his best parts. It is full of vivacity, and the music suits his flexible baritone completely. The four artists were called for at the fall of the curtain.

The last act of the "Puritani" will be followed; but, owing to Mario's indisposition, a selection from "Semiramide" was given, introducing Grisi, the charming Albini, the fine basso Tagliafico and Tamburini. Albini was encored rapturously in his air with enthusiasm. In the Ballet attractions were Fanny Ellsler and Dumilatre. The house was very well attended. Donizetti's "Lucrezia Borgia" will be given on Saturday (this evening), with a powerful cast, including Grisi, Albini, Mario, Tamburini, Marini, Tagliafico, Polonini, Tulli, Layla &c. &c.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—At the fifth Concert, at which the Duke of Cambridge was present, the symphonies were Haydn's in G minor, op. 59; and Beethoven's in A, No. 7. The revival of the former seemed to afford general satisfaction, with its fresh and vigorous allegro, its elegant andante, its lively minuetto, and melodious trio, which were encored; and its fiery finale. The No. 7 is one of Beethoven's soul-stirring works, full of fire and animation, with startling surprises and exquisite episodes. Barring a few slight mishaps, the two symphonies were admirably rendered; but now that the Royal Italian Opera band is in existence, we would suggest to the directors the policy of increasing the strength and quality of their stringed instruments. The Philharmonic orchestra ought to be effective in every department. The overtures of "Oberton," and the "Deux Journées," by Weber and Chernubin, were superbly executed. Joachim, the Viennese marvel, as a youthful violinist, played Beethoven's Violin Concerto, the only one he composed for that instrument. Joachim's astonishing execution was hailed with thunders of applause from the band and audience. His admirable bowing, supple shuffles, and exquisite intonation—his fine conception of the composer's meaning, as exhibited in the cadenzas, perfect epitomes of the Concerto, alternately excited the admiration and astonishment of the *dilettante*. It may be high treason to say so, but to our minds the Concerto was much too long: in the first movement, the ideas are spun out, and the *motif* of the rondo is frivulous and common-place. The vocalists we. Mme. Persiani, who sang a scene from her husband's opera of "Inez de Castro," and the duo from Rossini's "Guillame Tell," with Salvi; the latter singing an air from Verdi's "Oberto," "Ciel che feci." These artists were much applauded for their beautiful singing.

THE MUSICAL UNION.—At the fourth Concert, on Tuesday afternoon, at which the President, the Duke of Cambridge, the Chairman of the Committee, the Earl of Falmouth, and a host of distinguished amateurs and artists were present, Mozart's Quartet in C major, No. 6, and Beethoven's Quartet in E flat, op. 10, were finely played by MM. Vieuxtemps, Delofrère, Hill, and Piatti. The last-mentioned violincellist performed an Adagio and Bolero, with pianoforte accompaniment, played by Vincent Wallace; and Vieuxtemps executed a violin solo, with variations, accompanied by his *cara sposa*.

THE HUNGARIAN SINGERS.—We are willing to award the praise of industry to these vocalists, and to admit that their imitations of instruments are in some respects curious; but the order of talent evinced is not of sufficient prominence as to be enough for a morning concert. Combined with other entertainments, their abilities may please.

MR. C. MUHLENFELDT.—This clever pianist gave a *soirée musicale* on Wednesday, at the Princess' Concert Rooms, and performed his own works, and others by Mendelssohn, Beethoven, Herz, &c., very ably. He was aided by M. Rousselot (violincello), Sainton (violin), Madame D'Eichthal (harpiste); and, as vocalists, by Madame Jenny Lützer, Mrs. Macfarren, Miss S. Novello, Madame Santa Croce, Miss E. Nelson, Herr Brandt, Signor Galli, Herr Schnitzler, and Mr. Lockey. Mr. C. Horsley was the accompanist.

MR. J. COHAN.—This pianist, who has considerable executive powers, gave a Concert on Wednesday evening, at the Hanover-square Rooms, at which he played his own fantasias, and works by Ries, Beethoven, &c. He was assisted by Mr. Blagrove, violin; and Miss Birch, Miss Dolby, Mr. Hart, and John Parry, as vocalists. The room was crowded to excess.

MUSICAL CHIT CHAT.

SCARCITY OF FOOD.—ROYAL EXAMPLE.—The following order was on Wednesday issued by the Lord Steward of the Queen's Household:—"Her Majesty, taking into consideration the present high and increasing price of provisions, and especially of all kinds of bread and flour, has been graciously pleased to command that, from the date of this order, no description of flour except seconds shall be used for any purpose in her Majesty's household; and that the daily allowance of bread shall be restricted to 1 lb per head for every person dieted in the Palace. By her Majesty's command, FORTESCUE. Board of Green Cloth, May 12, 1847."

THE LATE LORD COWLEY.—The mortal remains of the late Lord Cowley were interred on Monday in the vault of Grosvenor Chapel, South Audley-street. The ceremony was a strictly private one. The attendants comprised the Duke of Wellington, the Marquis of Salisbury (brother-in-law to the deceased), Earl Cadogan, Lord Robert Grosvenor (son-in-law to the deceased), the Hon. and Rev. Gerard Wellesley, &c. The funeral service was read in a most impressive manner by the Rev. Evan Neaseau, the minister of the chapel, and at the conclusion the body was lowered into the vault.

CONTINENTAL MUSICAL NEWS.—Our Paris advices bring us the news that Auber has been appointed Commander of the Legion of Honour, the first time such a rank has been given to a musician; and that Felician David, and Clapison (composers), and Emile Prudent (pianist and composer), have each received

the Cross of Chevalier. The opera of the "Pretender," by Kucken, one of the rising composers of Germany, had been quite successful at Stuttgart. We hear of the production of a new opera at Florence, in which the Princess and the two brother Princes Poniatowski sang with great success, for the benefit of the poor. The Académie Royale, in Paris, is in sad distress for a tenor, and for a *prima donna*.

On Monday will be the sixth meeting of the Beethoven Quartet Society; and the first of Rophino Lacy's Handelian Operatic Concerts, at the Hanover-square Rooms.

The fourth Concert of Ancient Music will be on Wednesday; and on the same evening Mr. C. Horn's new oratorio, "Daniel's Prediction," is to be produced at the Musical Hall.

On Friday evening will be the eleventh Concert of the Amateur Musical Society; and the annual Concert of that popular singer, facetious John Parry, who comes out with two new songs, by Albert Smith, called "Lalla Rookh," and the "Rival Opera Houses;" in the latter he will give imitations of the artists of both theatres. He has, in addition, a very attractive programme.

Mr. J. B. Chatterton has been named harpist to her Majesty.

Carlotto Grisi has been condemned by the Paris Courts to pay to M. Leon Pillet the sum of 10,000 francs, and the costs of the action, for having extended her leave of absence beyond the period fixed by her contract.

Letters from Berlin, announce that Madame Viardot Garcia, in Glück's "Iphigenia in Tauris," had achieved another decided triumph. The opera was given in presence of all the Royal Family, being their first appearance in public since the opening of the Diet.

On Thursday morning, Herr Fraulein Stöpel gave a Concert at the Hanover Square Rooms. The chief attraction was several pieces performed by twenty pianists, pupils of Mr. Stöpel, on ten pianofortes.

On Friday morning, Madame Puzzi gave her Annual Concert in the room at Her Majesty's Theatre.

CHESS

* * * Our customary Notices to Chess Correspondents are unavoidably postponed until next week.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM, NO. 172.

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EXHIBITION OF THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

CONCLUDING NOTICE.

In Parliament, Ireland and the Currency are the points of contention and dispute; and, in polite circles, in the drawing-room, Art and Music the engrossing subjects of conversation. Have you been to the Royal Academy? And have you heard Jenny Lind? Have you seen Mr. Etty's large picture of "Joan of Arc"—Mr. Landseer's "Van Amburgh and the Lions"—and Mr. Mulready's "Scene from the Vicar of Wakefield"? Have you been to the Italian Opera in Covent Garden, and to the Old Society of Painters in Water Colours? Have you heard Persiani; and have you seen the De Wint and the Copley Fieldings? Have you been to the Philharmonic this season? and, of course, you have seen Winterhalter's pictures at the Palace. There is a good deal to see at Christie's this year; and the Exhibition of the New Society of Painters in Water Colours is really a capital Exhibition. How fine is Hagede!

Then the British Institution is still open; and to see Pyne's large "View of Heidelberg," in the Gallery in Suffolk-street, is fairly worth a shilling and the cost of a catalogue. Then at McLean's, in the Haymarket, you may see (and for nothing too) Nash's admirable Views of the Exterior and Interior of Windsor Castle; and at the Cosmorama, in Regent-street (but this for half-a-crown), eight so-called Murillos, hitherto unknown. Above all, have you been to the Academy? and have you heard Jenny Lind?

Questions like these are common enough in company, nor is it easy to answer them all without provoking further conversation. We shall say nothing of the two rival operas in this place, or of Jenny Lind (a tempting subject), but shall confine our observations to the Art Exhibitions in the Metropolis. We have seen them all—and more than once—and are glad to fall in with the general opinion that this is an admirable Exhibition at the Royal Academy; that the large Etty is very fine, but hardly worth 2500 guineas; that Landseer was never greater, or Mulready more successful; that this is a hopeful exhibition in Suffolk-street; that the British Institution deserves a second visit; and that the Old and New Water-Colour Exhibitions are both admirable of their kinds, and both in a different way.

We paid our third visit to the New Water-Colour Exhibition on Thursday last. We were there as soon as the doors were open, and had the gallery to ourselves. There was a fine light, and we enjoyed the full pleasure of contemplating our favourite pictures without the trouble of a catalogue. That fine interior by Hagede is still unsold. Money must be scarce, for it is unquestionably the best picture in the Exhibition; the price, we believe, is only £150. After Hagede, Jenkins and Topham lead the way—Jenkins with his "Love Scene in Brittany," and Topham with his "Cavan's Well," already engraved in our Paper of the 24th of April. Jutsum's landscape ("The Streamlet," No. 251) is still to our tastes one of the sweetest landscapes in the Exhibition. Nor would it be easy to surpass the "Grapes" and "Still Life," by Mrs. Margetts; or Warren's view

JOHN THE BAPTIST PREACHING.³—PAINTED BY H. WARREN.

of "The Nile during an Inundation;" or Absolon's "Prince Charles Edward in the Isle of Skye;" or Mole's small picture of "Gleaners Resting;" or Jenkins's "Muscle Gatherers on the French Coast," a circular picture, engraved in the same number of our Paper with Mr. Topham's "Cavan's Well."

Mr. Dodgson contributes a couple of landscapes, almost companion pictures in size, and not dissimilar in style and treatment. One is called "Going to the Chase," an exterior, with an old Hampton Court-like hall, and Nash-like figures in the foreground. This is still unsold. His second contribution is called "Sweet Summer Time," and has been painted to illustrate a charming stanza by a pleasing American poet, of the name of Longfellow:

Pleasant it was, when woods were green,
And winds were soft and low,
To lie amid some sylvan scene,
Where the long drooping boughs be-
tween
Shadows dark and sunlight sheen,
Alternate come and go.

In illustration of this, Mr. Dodgson has given us an exquisite garden scene, with terraced walks, and fountains, and fine lawns—peopled with Watteau-like groups, picturesquely disposed—in short, a kind of picnic from Boccaccio's "Decamerons." The execution is careful, and the picture, we are glad to observe, marked "sold." We have engraved it in our present number.

Another artist of promise in the present Exhibition is Mr. E. H. Wehnert, who exhibits an Exterior, coloured with exquisite reality, called "Buildings on the Bridge at Vernon, on the Seine, Normandy." His other picture, a more ambitious effort, is "The Death of Jean Goujon, the celebrated French Sculptor." Jean Goujon was shot, 25th August, 1572, during the massacre of St. Barthélemy, while at work on his scaffolding, finishing some bas-reliefs in one of the courts of the Louvre. Mr. Wehnert never fails to tell his story clearly and unmistakably. His colouring, too, is always good.

We cannot conclude an account of this year's New Water-Colour Exhibition without referring to the works of Mr. Fahey, the Secretary of the Society. Mr. Fahey contributes four in all. One is entitled "At Maidstone;" a second, "A Distant View of Sittingbourne;" a third, "View on the Medway;" and a fourth, "The Return." The "View on the Medway" is a truthful transcript of nature, and the "Distant View of Sittingbourne" careful and characteristic. The distance is extremely good. "The Return," a scene at the porch of an Elizabethan house, we have engraved in our present Number. We must leave Mr. Fahey to tell his own story, nor will our readers easily mistake it.

We have also engraved for the present number Mr. Henry Warren's large Water-Colour Drawing, "John the Baptist Preaching." Mr. Warren, as an artist, is advancing in his art; but he must not be too ambitious; and, while trying the extent of his own resources, should bear in mind that Water-Colour drawing is a limited line of art, and that he is contending with difficulties found almost insurmountable in the richer qualities of oil. The subject he has



"SWEET SUMMER TIME."—PAINTED BY G. DODGSON.

EXHIBITION OF THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.



"THE DEATH OF JEAN GOJON."—PAINTED BY E. H. WEHNERT.

chosen is one of the noblest in a book rich in materials for the painter of high art incidents. "In those days came John the Baptist preaching in the Wilderness of Judea, and saying, repent ye, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

It is easy to understand the particular fascination of the subject, and the varied excellences it admits of for the purposes of art. But it is stripping for a great effort, and where failure is all but certain. Not that Mr. Warren has altogether failed—far from it; he has put thought and character into his drawing more than enough to compose half a dozen good pictures; but he is not up to the height of the occasion he embodies. One of our contemporaries has thought otherwise—a critic of great authority in art: "The figure of St. John," says the *Athenaeum*, "is near upon grandeur in conception; had it been draped more in conformity with the conventional practices of the early Italian schools, it would have come out a more striking personification, and enhanced by its more abstract treatment, the importance of the scene. The composition of this work is rich in the picturesque, and the introduction of the listening figure sitting on the camel, is just, both in thought and action."

THE THEATRES.

HER MAJESTY'S.

The great excitement produced by Mdlle. Jenny Lind's splendid and unequalled performance as *Alice*, in "Roberto il Diavolo," has not in the least abated.

On Thursday night, every seat in every part of the house was occupied, to witness her exquisite personation of the gentle *Amina*, in Bellini's "Sonnambula." Of all the modern operas, "La Sonnambula" has been the greatest favourite, not only in London, but on the Continent. We may say that it was performed on Thursday to perfection; and the charming duet, "Son gelosi del Zeffiro," which we believe, has not been sung in the opera at Her Majesty's Theatre, was restored to its place, rendering the opera complete in every respect—exquisitely sung by Jenny Lind and Gardoni. Every person we have spoken to is unanimous in saying that Mdlle. Jenny Lind's superb singing, on Thursday, was the most exquisite vocal treat ever heard within the walls of Her Majesty's Theatre. One of the greatest beauties in her vocalisation is, that, in her cadences, she preserves the character of the style of music she is singing, for which the ancient singers were so famous. These impromptus of her refined taste are invariably executed and finished off in a style that delights the most fastidious *dilettante*. This was most remarkable on Thursday, when she poured forth her exquisite embellishments with a charm and grace that won every heart. Her impersonation of this rôle is one of unbounded interest from beginning to end, never flagging for a moment; it is a true picture of the most engaging simplicity, and the affection of a pure and artless mind.

In the early part of the last scene, so powerfully was the interest of the audience riveted to the performance, that unbroken silence prevailed throughout the house, succeeded by such a hurricane of applause and excitement as baffles all verbal description: Mdlle. Lind was encored with intensity twice in "Ah! non giunge." Gardoni, as *Elvino*, was encored twice during the evening. After the fall of the curtain, Mdlle. Lind was called for, and appeared three times; and never was greater enthusiasm exhibited in any theatre in the world.

But, were we to exhaust every laudatory term in the English language, we could not render justice to her truly artistic and enchanting performance. We shall, therefore, conclude by saying it was perfection.

Our readers are aware that her Majesty and her Royal Consort Prince Albert honoured the theatre two nights *de suite* last week, to witness Mdlle. Jenny Lind's unrivalled performance; when, on one occasion, her Majesty was so delighted with *La Diva's* exquisite singing, that she threw her a magnificent bouquet. On this occasion, her Majesty and the Prince seemed equally pleased with Mdlle. Jenny Lind's beauteous impersonation of the gentle *Amina*.

The allusion made by Mr. Bunn, in his farewell address, to the unprosperous career of the season calls for a few remarks—in the absence of any novelties to notice in the past week—upon the present state of theatrical affairs generally, which is not, upon the whole, a flourishing one. DRURY LANE is closed, and by its shutting up several hundred persons—comprising, of course, the families of those actually engaged and paid in the establishment—are obliged to contract their already humble expenditure. COVENT GARDEN is at the outset only of trying a startling and dangerous experiment—just beginning to feel its way in one of the most mammoth speculations ever entered upon in the dramatic world. The HAYMARKET is filled on the evenings of Mrs. Nisbett's performances, and filled well; but the audiences on the "off nights" can scarcely be deemed remunerative, looking to the heavy salaries paid by the management to its first-rate troupe of performers. The excitement caused by the re-appearance of the favourite actress will of course decrease, as soon as all her admirers—and they are many, it is true—have seen her once again. Mr. Webster, however, announces the new comedy, which is called "Tempo," for production forthwith. At the PRINCESS', even Mrs. Butler has failed to attract to the extent anticipated; and the want of an established *prima donna* has cramped the production of those agreeable versions of the most popular Italian operas, which formed so peculiar a feature in the entertainments of this house at the time Madame Eugenia Garcia was in the company. The even tenor of the PRINCESS' management was first disturbed by the appearance of Madame Thillon. Great as was the



"THE RETURN."—PAINTED BY J. FAHEY.

success, yet it had the ill-effect of making the house a "star" theatre; and after the people appeared disinclined to go there, unless they saw large letters in the bills.

The LYCEUM, which the exertions of the Keeleys, and the happy knack of their authors in hitting the public taste, raised from a position so uniformly unfortunate that it had become a joke, will close in a week or two; what the Vestris dynasty will do for it remains to be seen. Their management of Covent Garden a few years ago was the only really money-making one at the time; and but for a mistaken profuseness which accompanied it, might have remained prosperous until this day. Should they succeed in establishing a company of intelligent and tractable actors, with a certainty of their remaining in the theatre for two or three years; and be able to give liberal encouragement to authors to write for that company—such a system, perseveringly carried on, must to a certainty finally prosper. Novelty will be found the only true source of profit; and, to obtain a supply of this, temptations must be held out to authors, who, if they found a company collected, such as could be written for with certainty, might bring fresh inspirations into the field; and an improvement both in dramatic writing and acting would speedily follow. The way pointed out involves two rather scarce items—undaunted perseverance and a large amount of capital—besides the judgment that no management can do without; but no one pursuing another course can do anything either for itself or for the stage.

The ST. JAMES'S is, in a measure, a "class" theatre, and can scarcely be said to derive its support from play-goers. It is the resort of an elegant and refined audience, for an entertainment, which, even in these days of advanced education, addresses itself, comparatively, to a few, and would keep on its even way uninfluenced by any general theatrical depression or excitement.

The ADELPHI is doing well. It has always been a favourite theatre, and is a practical proof of an opinion we have long held, that, in the long run, good melodrama is the species of entertainment likely to prove most remunerative. To all appearances, too, it is in the audiences of the minor houses alone that a strong appetite for the stage exists. If we examine the productions expressly written for these theatres, we shall find that they form as distinct and marked a class as those of any particular period of dramatic history, and offer a strong contrast to the jumble of styles—the medley of imitations—which, for the most part, the writers of the higher classes of dramas bring forth.

SADLER'S WELLS is still prosperous, and deservedly so; at the same time, it is, fortunately, situated out and away from opposition, for the musical taverns in the neighbourhood lost most of their charms when the smoking and drinking in the salles was abolished.

The OLYMPIC is still closed; and none of the rumours respecting its future occupancy appear to have any foundation; whilst the press orders alone would almost fill the boxes of the STRAND.

Over the water, the theatres have little to complain of; but there are such frequent changes in the bills, that we do not think any very great hit has been made of late. It is some time since we have noticed any success like that achieved by "Mazepa," at ASTLEY's; by "Jonathan Bradford," or "Black-eyed Susan," at the STREYER; or by "Susan Hopley," at the VICTORIA, which pieces kept in the bills for months. Without doubt, dramas of equal merit could still be obtained, but they must be paid well for. No recognised author would care to write for the miserable pittance paid by most minor theatres, when a drama may be bought outright for a pound or two, and ten shillings per night is considered ample remuneration, if paid in that manner.

Looking to the advertisement columns of a weekly contemporary, we see seventeen places open nightly for theatrical and musical entertainments—entirely exclusive of evening exhibitions generally. It is no matter of surprise that many of these should be far from flourishing: the only wonder is, that they can keep open at all.

Mr. Paul, the "low comedian," died on Thursday morning: he commenced his career under Elliston, at the Olympic theatre, in 1825.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

There is an anecdote of Sheridan that, walking with a friend down Bond-street, and being a sked alms by a beggar, he threw the applicant a guinea. His companion, knowing that the wit by no means abounded in the precious metal, hinted that a shilling, at all events, would have been a handsome offering. "Perhaps it might," said poor Richard, "but it's worth a price that privilege of making the human heart leap for joy." In this mind, we can look back on the season from which we are at length emancipated—the long winter of our discontent. We have stepped from it into a time that stirs the heart, however sluggish. To say nothing of nature and her golden glories—the fields, the woods, the streams, all revelling in luxurious life, contemporary with that new birth of the world, was the change that came o'er the spirit of our dream—even here, in the city of cities. To end the plague of both our houses—to give discord coup de grace, glorious Apollo sent Polyphemus again among us—in the form of a Swedish maiden. Science and art have thrown wide their doors, and all that taste and refinement can bring to embellish existence, may now be had—by the paying for. Imagine the carnival on whose threshold we stand; the marvellous merry-making of Wednesday next on the hills of Surrey! To be sure it will cost some of the company rather dear, but pain and pleasure are so near akin. . . . Looking back at a most pleasant passage of social pastime, which the current week put before those who took their recreation on our noble river—"below brige"—or, i.e., upon an occasion that could not have left a solitary sight behind, we allude to

THE ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB MATCH, the opening Regatta of the sailing year. It fell upon a morning, indeed—that of Tuesday last—not exactly calculated to intoxicate the spirits; but the afternoon was delicious: and, with such music as that made by the noble orchestra of the "Blues," and the more gentle but not less sweet accompaniment of the band of the Club, it must have been a heavy heart that did not occasionally "cut a caper." The Meteor, one of the fastest of the Thames steamers, was chartered for the noble Commodore's flag—and the accommodation of the members and their friends. Soon after ten, A.M., she had shipped a goodly freight—when Lord Alfred Paget, accompanied by his fair bride, and Lady Adelaide Paget, came on board. The vessel then dropped down to Blackwall, and having there received a large accession of company, took its course for the picturesque little bay of Erith, where the wager fleet lay at anchor, with slips on their moorings. Five of the crack 25-ton boats were entered, but the Fawn did not put in an appearance, so the trial fleet consisted of the following quartet—the prize for this class being a most beautifully chased silver kettle (of course, for brewing grog):—

Tons.	Owner.	
The Secret ..	25	J. W. Smith, Esq.
The Iris ..	25	Henry Gibson, Esq.
The Prima Donna ..	25	Thomas Harvey, Esq.
The Belvidere ..	25	Lord Alfred Paget .. ran aground.

There was a handsome silver punch-bowl or a silver tea-service for the choice of the second vessel in the first class—and a second class match—the winner of which had sent one of the above, as 1st, second boat might not select. For the second class, two sailed:—

Tons.	Owner.	
Ranger ..	12	E. W. Roberts, Esq.
Whisper ..	12	Thos. Eveleigh, Esq.

The start took place a few minutes before one, with hardly a breath of air—the tide already some time on the ebb. As the turning point was the Chapman Head Buoy—some miles below Gravesend—it augured badly for the return. The Ranger led till the Secret began to gather way, when, admirably handled, she overhauled the leaders, went to the van, and there remained—winning by nearly five minutes—rounding the goal abreast of Greenwich Hospital at five minutes past nine—a late hour for finishing a race. Soon after they began to turn over the tide, or beat home, the Belvidere got aground, and we towed her up astern of the Meteor. A little squadron of yachts—among them the Pearl, with the veteran Marquis of Anglesey on board—accompanied the match, and, as they passed Gravesend on the return, a more perfect spectacle of river yachting cannot be conceived. Nothing can be better than the arrangements for these matches; and those who, by experience or report, understand the ordinary character of water parties, must learn the perfection to which they may be brought by a sample of the style in which they are got up for the R.T.Y.C. galas.

TATTERSALL'S.

MONDAY.—Although within a few days of the race, the Derby betting this afternoon was anything but brisk, only the three favourites, Oxonian, Montpelier, and War Eagle, having been backed with the least approach to spirit; in each of these cases the closing prices showed an improvement. Glenfitt, Planet, and Mr. Martin were not in favour, and Ulysses was sent to the rear. The Oaks betting was limited, except on the Farmer's Daughter, who was backed for a large amount. Lady Lift and Ellerdale were also in request, at improving prices.

DERBY.		
7 to 4 agst J. Day's lot	20 to 1 agst Wanota	40 to 1 agst Epitope
5 to 1 — Cossack (t)	25 to 1 — Montpelier (t)	50 to 1 — Good Coin
5 to 1 — Conyngham	25 to 1 — War Eagle	50 to 1 — Bingham
13 to 2 — Van Tromp	25 to 1 — Oxonian	50 to 1 — Buckskin
11 to 1 — Forth's lot	30 to 1 — Mathematician	50 to 1 — Halo
15 to 1 — Plan't	30 to 1 — Red Hart	100 to 1 — Ulysses
16 to 1 — Mr. Martin	33 to 1 — Glendale	100 to 1 — Bowstring
20 to 1 — Mr. Gully's lot (t)	40 to 1 — Nottingham	
	OAKS.	
4 to 1 agst Clementina	9 to 1 agst Slander (t)	15 to 1 agst Ellerdale (t)
5 to 1 — Farmer's Daughter	13 to 1 — Lady Lift (t)	25 to 1 — Maid of Mother-well (t)

THURSDAY.—Agreeably to custom, the room was opened on Tuesday and Wednesday, but to very little purpose, the betting having been on too small a scale to call for a separate notice. Comparing was the order of the day this afternoon, and it necessarily took up a very considerable portion of it; business, however, was not altogether neglected, and it was so far important, that it gave Conyngham a marked preference over Cossack, and once more placed the Dutchman in a formidable position, 9 to 1 having been laid on Wednesday, and 13 to 2 taken this afternoon!—Several other horses were backed, but at previous quotations or nearly so; and, in the Oaks betting, the only alteration was in The Farmer's Daughter, against whom 10 to 1 was laid in three or four quarters, a decline of four points.

DERBY.		
7 to 4 agst J. Day's lot	22 to 1 agst Oregon	65 to 1 agst Retort colt (t)
12 to 1 — Forth's lot	22 to 1 — Wanota	65 to 1 — Mirrilla (t)
9 to 2 — Conyngham	25 to 1 — Montpelier	80 to 1 — Timour (t)
11 to 2 — Cossack	30 to 1 — Mr. Martin	100 to 1 — Timesome (t)
13 to 2 — Van Tromp	20 to 1 — Newstring	100 to 1 — The Admiral (t)
12 to 1 — Plan't	25 to 1 — Red Hart	100 to 1 — Chahibear (t)
20 to 1 — War Eagle	60 to 1 — Literator (t)	
	OAKS.	
4 to 1 agst Clementina	12 to 1 agst Ellerdale (t)	20 to 1 agst Maid of Mother-well (t)
9 to 1 — Slander	15 to 1 — Lady Lift	25 to 1 — Vanity (t)
10 to 1 — Farmer's Daugh-	15 to 1 — F. out of Quilt	25 to 1 — The Queen (t)
ter	Arnold's dam	

ARTIFICIAL PRODUCTION OF ICE.

On Monday evening, an interesting Lecture was delivered at the Western Literary and Scientific Institution, Leicester square, on the Artificial Production of Ice, by means of the machinery and preparations of Messrs. Lings and Keith, ice-mechanists, of No. 11, Princes-street, Leicester-square.

The Lecture commenced with an exposition of those principles which relate to the production of cold; and the practical application of them, by means of the machinery and freezing-mixture, was shown by numerous experiments. One of the most remarkable objects produced was a Castle, formed of the purest spring water, frozen in metal moulds, five feet in length and about the same in height, weighing nearly seven hundredweight; this novelty excited great interest amongst a most crowded audience.

There were also shown a variety of hollow cylinders, formed by the same process, for the purpose of receiving decanters of wine during dinner, or of using with the dessert.

Several experiments were shown, illustrating the nature of good and bad conductors of heat, and the power of a new non-conducting material was demonstrated, by the Lecturer surrounding his hand with a thin coating of it, and exposing it for several minutes to the intense flame produced by the combustion of camphine. The application of this material to the preservation of bodies in a cool state was then alluded to, and the construction of the "Ice-Safe" pointed out.

Several specimens of fruit and vegetables were shown, including strawberries, asparagus, and cucumbers, &c., which had been preserved upwards of a fortnight, in a state quite fit for the table; and not the least important, was some butter, which had been in but two hours, and was taken out in an almost frozen state.

The advantages of this Ice-Safe were explained by the Lecturer as being not only due to the cold and at the same time perfectly dry atmosphere existing in its interior, in consequence of the patented principle of the Ice being contained in a separate chamber, but also to its great economy in the consumption of Ice.

At the close of the Lecture, a vote of thanks to Messrs. Lings and Keith was proposed and seconded by members of the Committee of the Institution, and carried unanimously.

THE PROTESTANT ASSOCIATION.—The anniversary meeting of this Society took place, at Exeter Hall, on Wednesday. J. P. Plumptre, Esq., M.P., took the chair at twelve o'clock. The secretary (Mr. Lord) then read the report of the Association, which gave an account of the present state and prospects of the Society. The income during the past year amounted to between £13,000 and £14,000; and the expenses having been paid, a balance of £108, 8s. 4d. remained in the hands of the treasurer, to be employed in part liquidation of the debt, which was now reduced to about £500. The adoption of the report was moved by the Rev. Mr. Bickersteth, seconded by the Earl of Winchilsea, and carried unanimously. Resolutions were passed expressive of the sentiments of the meeting, and of the necessity for exertion at the approaching election, in support of which the meeting was addressed by the Rev. Mr. Print, Admiral Duff, the Rev. Hugh McNeile, and other gentlemen, and a vote of thanks having been passed to the Chairman, the meeting separated after singing a hymn.

AMERICAN SYMPATHY.—The American ship *Morea*, Captain Rand, arrived at Glasgow on Monday, with a cargo of meal, beans, pork, bread, &c., amounting in value to nearly £6,000, being a contribution from the citizens of New England to the relief of the destitute in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. On Saturday the *Express*, a small barbecue, arrived at Dublin from New York, with a cargo of 2,675 sacks and barrels of Indian corn meal, 119 barrels and two sacks of Indian corn, 10 boxes of clothing, a half barrel of fish, one barrel of buck wheat, one bag of peas, and 13 bags of bread, consigned to the Central Association Society of Friends, for gratuitous distribution among the most destitute of the poor of Ireland.

THE POLISH BALL AT WILLIS'S ROOMS ON FRIDAY NEXT, 21ST. INSTANT.—This annual entertainment promises to be a brilliant reunion of the élite of aristocracy and fashion with which London at present abounds. Several fancy quadrilles have been formed, and the incessant application for tickets leaves no doubt that the ball will be fully attended.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—The Nobility, Subscribers to the Opera, and the public, are respectfully informed that there will be a GRAND EXTRA NIGHT on THURSDAY next, MAY 20, 1847, on which occasion

MIDDLE JENNY LIND

will appear in one of her Favourite Characters. To be followed by various Novelties in the BALLET DEPARTMENT, combining the Talents of Mdlle. Cerito, Mdlle. Rosati, and Mdlle. L. Grabin; M. Ferrot, and M. St. Leon.

ASTLEY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.—Under the Patronage of Her Majesty the Queen, Prince Albert, and the Royal Family.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. WM. BATTY.—MONDAY, MAY 17th, and following Evenings: Last Six Nights of the present grand Equestrian and Dramatic Spectacle, Brilliant Feats of Horsemanship, Wonderful Trained Horses and Gymnastic Feats to give place to the Whitsuntide Performances, which will rank the first in their peculiar branches, embodying the extensive resources of this rivalled Establishment, when an Entertainment will be provided unequalled in grandeur and effect.—Stage Manager, Mr. W. D. Broadfoot.—Stalls, 3s.; Boxes, 4s.; Pit, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.; Upper Gallery, 6d.

COLOSSIUM.—NOTICE. The whole of this Magnificent Establishment IS TROWN OPEN DAY OR EVENING for TWO SHILLINGS. Children, Half-price.

Open from Ten till Half-past Five, and Seven till Half-past Ten.

MRS. ANDERSON, Pianiste to her Majesty the Queen, the Queen Dowager, and Musical Instructor to the Princess Royal, has the honour to announce that her ANNUAL GRAND MORNING CONCERT will take place at the Great Concert Room, Her Majesty's Theatre, on FRIDAY, MAY 29, to commence at Half-past One o'clock precisely, on which occasion she will be assisted by the most celebrated vocal and instrumental artists in town. The Orchestra will be complete in every department. Conductor, Signor Costa. Full particular will be duly announced—Boxes, 3s.; Stalls, 2s.; Boxes, 3s.; Pit, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.; Upper Gallery, 6d.

THE QUEEN'S CONCERT ROOMS, Hanover-square.—Mr. FREDERICK CHATTERTON, Harpist to Her Majesty, the Queen of the French, and H.R.H. the Duchess of Gloucester, has the honour to announce his MORNING CONCERT on TUESDAY, MAY 27th.—Vocal: Miss Jenny Lind, Mademoiselle Raintho, A. Williams, M. Williams, Sabilla Novello, W. H. Seguin, Bassano, and F. Lablache; Signors Marras, Brizzi, and F. Lablache; Messrs. Henry Phillips, F. N. Crouch, Calkin, Seguin, N. J. Sporre, and John Parry. Instrumental: Miss Kate Loder, Miss Day, Mr. Carte, and Mr. Frederick Chatton, Conductor, Signor Costa. Full particular will be duly announced—Boxes, 3s.; Stalls, 2s.; Boxes, 3s.; Pit, 2s.; Seats, 1s.

ETHIOPIAN SERENADERS.—ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

CLOSE OF THE ENTERTAINMENT.—The Nobility, Gentry, and Public are respectfully informed that the Popular Entertainment given by the Ethiopian Serenaders, PELL, HARRINGTON, WHITE, STANWOOD, and GERMON, will be positively terminated at the End of the ensuing Month of June, previously to the fixed departure of the Company for the Continent, on the 1st July. Since the commencement of this Entertainment, more than Four Hundred Performances have been given in the City of London, and notwithstanding the numerous vulgar imitations which have been recently attempted in the Metropolis, the unapproachable superiority of the above party is established by their undiminished popularity and success. During the few remaining weeks of their Engagement, the Performances will be continued every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday Evenings, and a Morning Performance will take place every Wednesday. The Entertainments of the Thursdays, during the Month of June, will be appropriated for the separate Benefits of each Member of the Company. And, in order to produce an agreeable Souvenir of the unparalleled popularity of these Performances, it is intended to present to every visitor of the Private Boxes and Stalls, a Portrait of the Ben-Aïssa in his private appearance, and also in his professional capacity, illustrating some favourite melody. Such Portraits will be executed from the life, in the finest style, by H. Maguire, Esq., and are already nearly completed. The Benefits will be arranged by the following order:

FRIDAY, JUNE 3rd, for the BENEFIT of GERMON (Tambour),
THURSDAY, JUNE 9th, ditto (Accordion),
TUESDAY, JUNE 17th, ditto (Banjo),
THURSDAY, JUNE 24th, ditto (Harrington),
THURSDAY JULY 1st, ditto (Bells).

previously to the LAST FAREWELL PERFORMANCE on Saturday Evening, July 3.

BOXES and STALLS at Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street, and at the Box Office of the Theatre.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

The THIRTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN at their Gallery, 53, Pall-Mall, near St. James's Palace, from 9 till dusk.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.

JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

ROYAL ADELAIDE INSTITUTE.—The EXHIBITION of PAINTINGS and SCULPTURE will commence on MONDAY, the 24th Instant.—Open Daily, from Eight o'clock till Dusk. Admission 1s. Artists will be admitted to retouch their works on Friday, the 21st Instant, from Eight o'clock till Dusk.

Royal Adelaide Gallery, May 18, 1847. THOS. HAWKINGTON WILSON, Secretary.

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LADIES' RIDING HABITS, New Style, Registered 6 and 7 Victoria, chap. 65.—W. FORD begs to inform those Ladies not visiting London, that he will be happy to send directions for taking their own measure (with exactness), accompanied by an engraving of his Improved Registered Riding Habit made only by the Patentee, W. FORD, Habit Maker, 10, Holles-street, Cavendish-square, London.

FRENCH CLEANING.—SAMUEL OSMOND and Co., Dyers, 8, Ivy-lane, Newgate-street, Inform the Ladies that they clean Silk, Satin, Cashmere, and Mouseline de Laine Dresses, Shawls, Scarfs, Handkerchiefs, Bonnets, Parasols, Kid Gloves, and Satin Shoes, every week. They likewise continue to dye Black every Wednesday. Bed Furniture and Window Curtains Cleaned, Dyed, and Finished.

IF A LADY SEND NINE POSTAGE STAMPS, by return she will receive one length of the IMPROVED DRESS FASTENER, a novelty from art, combining neatness, elegance and economy, a great saving of time, and making the division of the dress imperceptible. Every article for Fancy Needlework. E. D. ROGERS, Berlin House, 101, Borough.

LADIES' READY-MADE LINEN AND INFANTS' UNDER-CLOTHING.—MRS. NORTON'S Show-Room, 72, Strand, is now replete with an unrivalled Assortment of Infants' Hoods and Cloaks, finished off in superior style, which are now offered to the public at the very lowest prices for Ready Money. Baby Linen of every description; Baskets, Bassinettes, &c. Outfits and Wedding orders executed with punctuality and despatch. 72, Strand, Adelphi.

LESSONS in MILLINERY and DRESS-MAKING.—MRS. HOWELL, of 304, Regent street, two doors from Margaret-street, Sole Inventress of Teaching the Art of Dress-making in a Series of Lessons, undertaken to convey to persons of meager capacity a correct knowledge of Cutting, Fitting, and Executing in the most Finished Style, in Six Lessons, for One Guinea. The correctness of this mode can be fully substantiated by Pupils.—Apprentices and Improvers Wanted.—Millinery Rooms—Paper Models.

THE attention of LADIES is particularly requested to the NORWICH COTTON COMPANY'S 3 and 6 Cord Sewing Cotton, as being of the most beautiful and uniform texture yet produced. It is wound on reels, in lengths of 100, 200, and 300 yards. The 6 Cord is not only the very best Cotton for Sewing, but is especially adapted for Knitting, Netting, and Crochet. To be had at all the most respectable Milliners, Drapers, Haberdashers, and Berlin Repositories; and wholesale only of the proprietors, Messrs. J. L. BARBER and CO., Norwich; and of their Agent in London, Mr. W. W. TRIPP, 35, Friday-street, Cheapside.

THE EXPOSITION of HALF-MOURNING FABRICS for DRESSES, at the LONDON GENERAL MOURNING WAREHOUSE, 247, 249, and 251, Regent-street, comprises Mousseline de Soie, Granadine, Aérienne Imprimée, Barège à Volant, Barège Imprimée, Barège Toul Uni, Barège d'aïcer, Gaze Marquise, Organdi, Mouseline imprimée, Embroidered Tarlatan and Crepe Arachéone Robes, and an endless variety of Fancy Fabrics, adapted for Morning, Dinner, and Evening Dress. The LONDON GENERAL MOURNING WAREHOUSE, 247, 249, and 251, Regent-street.

LADIES MAY BE ASSURED that a real LACE HOUSE is the only place to procure good as well as cheap LACE, inferior goods being rejected, from superior judgment. The depressed state of the Belgian market has given DISON the advantage of purchasing some extraordinary cheap Valenciennes, from 4d. to 3s. per yard; they are good white, and very cheap. The finer sorts are unequalled beauty, and at low prices. All the novelties of the season are at DISON's, No. 237, Regent-street.

THE ROYAL MECHLIN SHAWL, full Two Yards square, made of the finest Berlin Wool, at less than Half-price! KING and SHEATH will send one of the above Elegant Shawls (carriage free) to any part of the Kingdom at 8s. 1d. each. Colours, shaded lilacs, blues, greens, maltese, lavenders, and blacks; a few plain white remaining.—Address KING and SHEATH, 264, Regent-street.

REAL VALENCIENNE LACE. GREAT REDUCTION IN THE PRICE.

Edgings, 4d. to 9d. Narrow Lace, 1s. 0d. to 2s. 0d. Wide Edge, 2s. 0d. to 12s. 6d. Insertions, 9d. to 1s. 6d. Real Mechlin Lace 1s. 3d. to 1s. 12s. Patterns sent to any part of the Kingdom, for inspection.

Address KING and SHEATH, 264, Regent-street.

PARASOLS.—The Patentees of the SYLPHIDE PARASOL (60,000 of which have been already sold) beg to call the attention of Ladies to their Registered Improvement, THE INDIAN. This invention consists of an invisible band of elastic material, which, by contracting when the Parasol is closed, keeps it so at the will of the wearer. Every Lady will know that the silk of a Parasol is cut, before it is fairly worn out, by the friction of the ring, which has thereto been indispensable, on account of the inconvenience attending Banding all Clasps of all descriptions.

W. and J. SANGSTER, 140, Regent-street; 10, Royal Exchange; 94, Fleet-street.

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP OF MESSRS. GEORGE and LAMBERT.

GREAT BARGAINS in SILKS, BAREGE, and CACHEMIRE DRESSES, &c.—In consequence of the dissolution of partnership of MESSRS. GEORGE and LAMBERT, 192, Regent-street, it has become necessary to SELLS OFF the whole of the STOCK which is reserved, and in order to obtain the greatest possible clearance, they have determined to mark every article in plain figures (including their recent purchases of novelties for the present season), at a



BREAD RIOTS AT STETTIN.

FOOD RIOTS AT STETTIN.

THE Illustration (from a Sketch by a German artist) shows a scene from the Food Riot which took place at Stettin on the 24th ult., and was briefly noticed in our Journal of last week. Stettin, it will be remembered, is one of the most important towns in the Prussian monarchy; and is engraved at page 84 of the present volume, in our series of "Foreign Corn Ports."

The details of the Riot on the 24th ult. are,—In the morning, a mob of the lower classes made an attack on the supplies of potatoes brought to market, and then, accompanied by a countless multitude of women and boys, proceeded to almost all the bakers' shops, seized the bread, and destroyed the furniture and other articles. It happening to be the day of the fair, the stalls were not spared; those with provisions were plundered, and many excesses committed. It was not till the drums beat to arms, and till the troops assembled at the places that were threatened and patrolled the streets, and several desperate rioters were arrested, that tranquillity was in some measure restored. A proclamation was everywhere posted in the streets, stating that the citizens, distinguished by a white ribbon on their arms, would act as a guard; that the military were provided with ball-cartridge; and expressing a hope that the public tranquillity would not be further interrupted. The

military, not being able to quell the riot, and the soldiers, officers, and general being pelted with mud and stones, it was at length necessary to fire, by which several persons were wounded and two killed.

By subsequent intelligence (dated April 27), we learn that public tranquillity had not been further disturbed in the city, and by the judicious measures of the authorities, confidence and security were restored. The streets being again quiet, the military patrols were withdrawn, and only sentinels placed at the bakers' shops. Many persons have been arrested as ringleaders in the tumult, or for having excited the rioters. April 29. Intelligence has been received here, that this morning a magazine of forage at Garz, in which there were 140 bushels of oats, and all the barns before the gate of Schwedt have been destroyed by fire, the origin of which has not yet been ascertained.

We regret to add that distress is becoming universal throughout Germany; and at Stuttgart and Wurtemberg, the rioting has been very formidable.

MOUNT ST. BERNARD DOG.

THIS fine animal has just been presented by her Majesty to the Zoological Society of London, and is now at their Gardens, in the

Regent's Park. He is a cross between the French Mastiff and the Mount St. Bernard Dog, and is remarkable both for his handsome proportions and immense size. He has an extra share of fierceness, to which he is indebted for his change of location.

LORD DUNDONALD.—The Government have, upon a further investigation of Lord Dundonald's case, recommended that he be reinstated in the Order of the Bath.

AN IRISH LUXURY.—The *Castlebar Telegraph* says:—"During the last week several dead bodies were carried through the town for interment without the luxury of coffins."

PROPOSED MONUMENT TO CAXTON, THE PRINTER.—The Rev. H. H. Milman, in a letter to Lord Morpeth, suggests the propriety of erecting a monument to Caxton, at the end of the new Victoria-street, in front of the Abbey. Mr. Milman states that the house in the Almory, which tradition pointed out as the residence of Caxton, and the scene of his labours, has fallen down of its own accord. The tradition is of somewhat doubtful authority; it is certain, however, that the printing press in England commenced its operations within the precincts or sanctuary of the Abbey. The character of the monument (adds Mr. Milman) might be this:—A fountain (of living water) by day, out of which should arise a tall pillar, obelisk, or cluster of Gothic pinnacles, for light by night; the diffusion of light being the fit and intelligible symbol for the invention of printing. Lord Morpeth approves of the suggestion, which is likewise sanctioned by the Dean of Westminster.



GREAT ST. BERNARD DOG, PRESENTED BY THE QUEEN TO THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.